

# MICHIGAN FARMER

## AND STATE JOURNAL OF AGRICULTURE.

The Only Agricultural and Live Stock Journal in the State.

VOL. XXXIII.  
NO. 3.

DETROIT, SATURDAY, JAN. 15, 1898

PRICE 5 CENTS.  
\$1 per Year.

### Farm Department.

Conducted by J. H. Brown, who lives on his farm at Climax, Mich., which is conducted as the Michigan Farmer Experiment Farm. All correspondence for this department should be sent to Climax, Mich.

For The Michigan Farmer.

#### FARM EXPERIENCES.

##### TOO MUCH CHEAPNESS.

In the close competition and low prices of the period many productions are deteriorating so much as to be really dear at the supposed low price.

When tarred corn ties first came around a few years ago, a rope had about eighty strands of heavy bulk, well saturated with pine tar. The next year there was a hundred strands, of smaller size, and more poorly tarred. Then for a couple of years 130 was the number, and the lessened size and poorer absorbing power of the material used made the tar less, and I began to notice that, after exposed to the weather for several weeks, as in the case of late sweet corn left in the shock until used, the tar evaporated to such a degree that mice chewed the ties as freely as plain binder twine.

This fall my son came home with a piece of tarred rope, and was quite exultant, for there were 180 strands to the same weight and length that at first had only 80. I remarked that it was probably now so cheap as to be about worthless. And when I found it to be common binder twine, saturated with a mixture of a good deal of crude oil with a trifle of tar, I was satisfied that it would be no great advance over plain untarred twine. In foddering now I daily find about half the ties eaten in a two.

As the fodder is all in the barn it does not matter so much, but if it was still in the field it would necessitate rebinding quite a bit.

When I first got my typewriter five years ago, ribbons cost a dollar, and I used one six months. Now they cost 50 cents and one will do about one-third the work that I formerly got. Axe handles formerly cost 25 cents. Now they can be got for a dime and that is more than many of them are worth as compared with the 25-cent article of twenty years ago. Almost every article of farm machinery has some part where cheapness has been overdone and repairs have to be begun the first season.

One can no longer get a pair of leather shoes or boots where both are of good material. One is invariably poor, and I believe it is a trick of the trade to make them in this way.

##### THE WOODPILE.

It is now a question in some sections whether it pays to cut wood. In my own town the money paid, at the rate of 50 cents per stove cord for cutting, will buy, at \$1 per ton, as much coal as the two cords of wood are worth for heating. The coal is the fine or refuse known as slack or "car bottom." This will burn in a range

for cooking just as well as lump coal costing two and a quarter times as much, but is dirty to use and one has sometimes to wait several hours at the mine in winter for a load.

Where one has a woodlot and spare time in winter it pays days' wages to cut firewood, and saves just so much cash for something else. I notice that some do not make the most of their opportunities in using wood. Some of my neighbors draw it sled length,

does not season, so there is waste of heat enough to pay for the splitting and this much is a total loss from dilatory tactics. The maxim, "what is worth doing at all is worth doing well," applies in a large degree to getting the winter's supply of fuel.

Ohio.

L. B. PIERCE.

(There is much truth regarding this matter of cheapness. Fortunately we secured some first-class tarred twine at five cents per pound. It does good

ness has largely created the conditions in which such goods are found.—Ed.)

For The Michigan Farmer.

#### CEMENT FLOORS.

I take your paper and was just reading in regard to cement floors. We have the best of material here for making them and have used such a floor for years in poultry house, but it is not a success.

The hen manure will take the lime out of the cement in three months, and it will be like so much loose sand and gravel. I know by experience.

For hogs it is not a success. It will do to feed on, if they have access to the ground. But if penned up on it for four weeks their feet will get so sore they can hardly stand and they will also gnaw at it until they get a hole through it. There is nothing they seem to like to gnaw so well.

The cement floor is all right in some respects, for it is mouse and rat proof. I have used one for six years.

Barry Co., Mich.

R. C. SMITH.

For the Michigan Farmer.

#### A GOOD BARN PLAN.

In the issue of December 4, W. H. S. asks for plan of barn. I send drawings and description for a barn 42x90 feet.

The south bent in Fig. 1 shows the horse stable. H. S., four stalls on each side of the feed room, F. R., in which is situated a feed bin under the stairway leading to loft. G. is a grain box for grain to drop into from a bin in loft; W. T. is a water trough, approached from wagon room.

The second bent is for wagon room, with doors east and west.

The third bent is main floor, where loads of hay and grain are unloaded by means of horse fork, or other device for the purpose. There is a stairway from this floor (over the cellar stairs) leading to the loft; also, a door to grain bin, G.

The fourth and fifth bents are used for cow stables, C. S. The feed is put into one from the main floor, and into the other from the alley way in the extreme north end of barn.

In the west end of this alley is another grain bin, G. In the middle of alley is a chute for putting hay down from the loft. Between the two cow stables is a driveway to cart out the cleanings and can be used in summer to run in tools.

Fig. 2 shows the different shaped roofs, each of which gives the same space for storage above the line A.

Livingston Co., Mich.

L. S.

(Five cuts accompanied the above description. For want of space we were forced to leave out three cuts.)

The cut showing basement or foundation plan is somewhat similar in outline of Fig. 1, except that it shows a stairway leading to the cellar (under stairway and G, second bent.)

Fig. 2 is a combination of a straight and hip roof, made to show that there is not much preference to either style

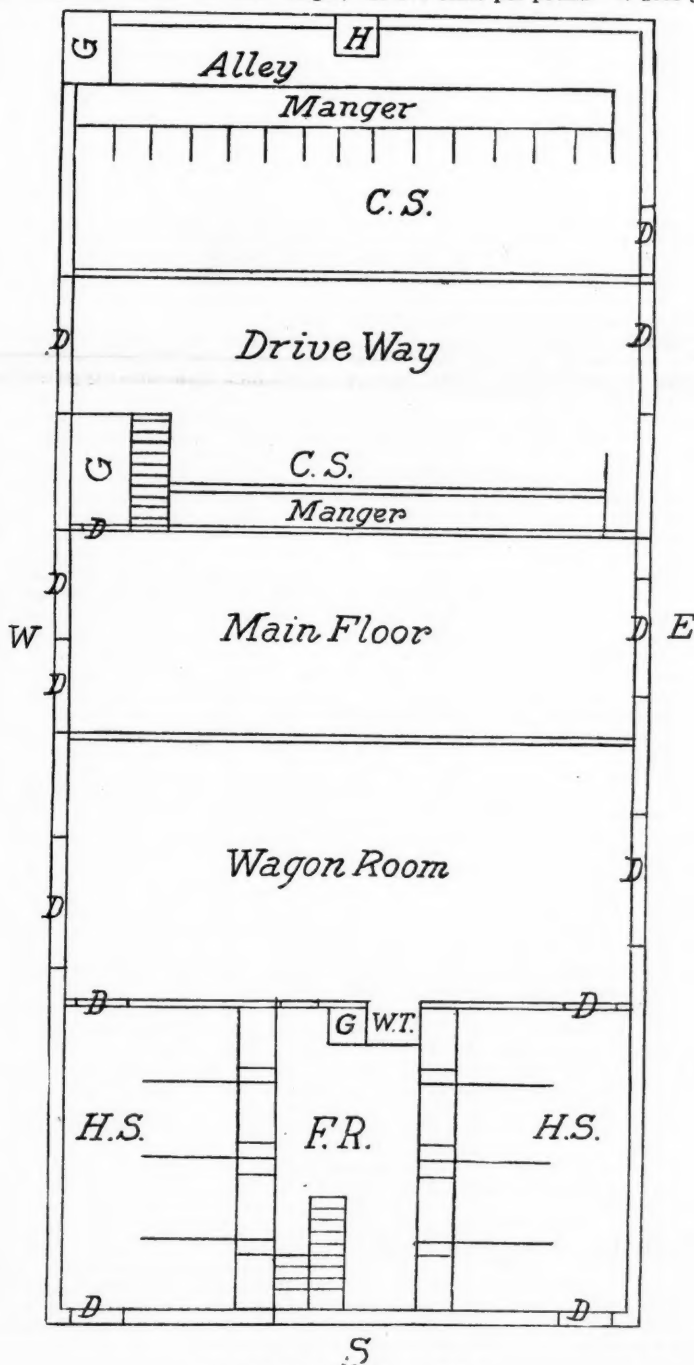


FIG. 1—SCALE 1-12 IN. TO THE FT.

split in large quarters and have a steam saw and gang of hands to cut it up.

They do not get about getting up the pile until nearly spring, and it is often along in May before the "buzzing" is done. There is no time for splitting and it is split from hand to mouth, or from pile to stove door. It not only splits much harder but

service we know, for we have just been out shredding some bundles of corn stover with the aid of the power windmill.

We found, however, that one of the men who helped husk the corn, frequently tied the twine wrong in binding the stover. Some ties were tied in "hard knots," necessitating cutting the twine. As to "cheap" twine and other things, the demand for cheap-



of roof, so far as storage space is concerned.

We like the general arrangement of this plan very well. It is a fact, however, that no one plan will suit every farmer, and seldom anyone so well as the originator of the plan.

It is often true, also, that the originator of a plan would seldom specifically follow in detail his own original construction if he were to rebuild five years hence.

This is self-evident from the fact that improvements would naturally suggest themselves to the owner of such a barn as the days went by.—Ed.)

For the Michigan Farmer.

#### SENSIBLE IDEAS REGARDING CONSERVATION AND APPLICATION OF MANURE.

In your Farm Notes of Dec. 18 you say if you had a good manure shed you would keep manure to use for top-dressing wheat ground in August and September, and the remainder should be spread as fast as made on clover and timothy sod, to be turned under for corn the following spring.

If I had a good covered yard I would neither keep manure for top-dressing wheat ground in August and September, nor turn it under for corn the following spring. I do not say this for the sake of differing with the editor, nor do I think my way perfect; but I feel that my base is good on which to build.

I would not use it for top-dressing in August and September because those are two busy months for man and team. With our present machinery, spring and fall are the most busy times. Besides to top-dress is far more laborious for the team; and while the manure helps the present crop, it does not give the lasting results by furnishing fertility to the soil, as it does when applied to sod.

To spread in winter and turn it under the following spring is too soon. It should remain on top at least eighteen months to furnish plant food for the grass to form a thick heavy sod.

When I was a lad (they say boys are thoughtless, but not so) my father harvested and threshed a field of wheat which had been seeded to clover and timothy. He stacked the straw in the field, allowing the cattle and sheep to run around it at will.

At the end of about three years this stack had been worked down to a rotten mass. All around the outer edge, where the manure was not too thick, the grass had grown and formed a very thick and firm sod. The bulk of the manure was hauled away and spread on the field, leaving perhaps two or three inches, then the whole field was plowed for corn.

While dragging this field I noticed that where the manure had been thick the soil was so nice that I selected it for my melon patch. I thought it would not do to use all that nice melon soil for my melons, so I left part for corn and planted a few hills out on the tough ugly sod, not expecting much from those hills.

But I was a surprised boy. About all the melons I had were on the sod. The corn, where there was no sod, was the poorest in the field, but all around on the tough sod it was far larger than in other places.

When I married I rented my father-in-law's farm. There was a field with some higher ground in it of about four acres of light clay loam, intermixed with gravel. This had been planted to corn the year before. The stalks grew about two feet high, and the ears, on account of the land being so strong, I suppose, were brought out about one inch below the top of the ground.

I seeded this ground to clover and timothy and mowed it the following year. It was a bad job to mow it on a bright day, owing to the reflection of the sun's rays from the cutter-bar and guards.

I thought of the melon patch, and as soon as what little hay that grew on it was off, all the manure that could be had was applied. During the winter the remainder was well covered with coarse manure, expecting to pasture the fields the following summer.

But after pasturing it a short time in the spring a pasture lot was purchased, the stock taken out, and the field left to mow, expecting to have a sorry time where the coarse manure was spread. But, to my surprise, where the grass the year before was so light, grass grew so heavy that you could scarcely drive a team between the large windrows. The coarse manure did not injure the hay, as it was pressed and sold at \$8.50 per ton, with no

complaint on the part of the purchaser.

The following spring the field was planted to corn, and better corn seldom grows than that which grew where the manure was spread. It was much better than the rest of the field. While it was not measured, the husker gave it as his opinion that it would yield 150 bushels per acre of ear corn.

The next crop was oats, which were too large and went down badly. This was followed by Clawson wheat, which was extremely good. That part of the field has received no special attention since. If anyone can tell me when or how to apply manure so as to give more lasting results, I will be converted.

Lapeer Co.

E. E. OWEN.

(Friend Owen's experience interests us very much, and we have read nothing better concerning the manure question for some time.)

We must, each one of us, write of the experience, conditions and uses to which we and our farms are especially adapted, and we cannot specifically advise even our own neighbor as to how he must conserve and apply his manure to the land.

We agree with friend Owen very largely as to the manner of application of manure to the land. For his farm, and the conditions which exist,

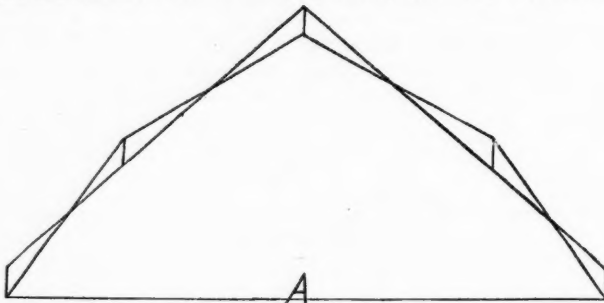


FIG. 2.

we doubt whether he could improve upon his present excellent practice.

But for us, upon our farm, our practice is the best we can devise, so far. The larger portion of our manure is made in the stables from November to the middle of May each year.

It pays us to top-dress our wheat ground in August with what manure has accumulated during the summer. This is put on wheat ground that is to be seeded to clover the following spring.

It gives us an opportunity to clean up the barnyard just before threshing time, and the manure is nearly all in a good condition to pulverize and spread evenly over the plowed furrows.

Hundreds of farmers in this section have found that wheat ground that is top-dressed gives not only a better and stronger growth of wheat plants in the fall, but that it very generally assures a good catch and almost sure growth of clover the following season.

It most assuredly pays us to top-dress our wheat ground with what available manure we can spread thereon, as we have frequently stated in these columns. This manure is worked into the surface to the depth of about four inches by means of the disc harrow.

We like to spread manure on our grass land or meadow from early fall until time to plow for corn in the spring. The manure that is spread just before plowing does not furnish so much plant food to the corn crop as that spread some time previous. But it is the best we can do under present conditions.

With a covered manure shed we should quit spreading before March 1st, and hold the spring-made manure for applying to grass land as a surface mulch.

There is much to be said on this question, and we are glad friend Owen has given us his ideas. Now let us have a general discussion on this subject.—Ed.)

#### SHREDDING FODDER—DOES IT PAY?

The practice of husking corn and shredding the fodder at the same time by machinery is being introduced in many localities of late years, and is causing no little comment and speculation among farmers as to whether it really pays or not to do so. This question can be answered satisfactorily only by having those who treat their fodder in this way, keep an accurate account of all expenses incurred and compare them with the advantage gained. But it will not do to determine this by guessing at the supposed advantages as many do, and minimizing the expenses so that the one will appear to balance the other.

In the first place, where corn and fodder are treated in this way the farmer must wait late enough in the fall to begin husking for the sap in the stalk to be dried up so as to prevent the fodder from molding when stored in barn or shed after being shredded. Several of our neighbors, ourselves among the number, lost considerable fodder by shredding too soon in the fall last year. In nearly every instance the fodder that was shredded early or before November 1 molded and was rendered almost valueless for feed.

Then, on the other hand, where farmers wish to shred a considerable amount and wait until the fodder is in good shape, the weather is likely to become bad and unsettled and damage ensues from delay in getting corn out of field. This year farmers are getting caught badly in this way, owing to the rainy weather since Nov. 1. True, these may be considered extreme conditions, but we all know they are likely to obtain more or less every year.

But should these weather conditions be favorable for saving shredded fodder we still think the main objection remains, viz.: the extra expense. So far as our own experience goes, we have found that it costs from 75 to 100 per cent more to husk corn with shred-

der than to husk by hand; and when done the only extra advantage is that of having the fodder stored away as indicated above, where it can be fed with greater ease and in better condition.

This year we shredded one-half day and succeeded in getting 78 shocks, of 144 hills each, shredded, yielding by actual weight 156 bushels of corn. Now, by adding the estimated amount of shelled corn that came out at rear end of machine, which was probably ten or twelve bushels, we have about 166 or 168 bushels for our half day's work. The cost incurred was 156 bushels at 4 cents per bushel, \$6.24; services of nine men besides those with the machine at 50 cents each, \$4.50, and cutting amount of wood consumed by engine, 50 cents. With the price of 12 meals at 12 1-2 cents each, we have a total cost of \$12.74 for husking and cribbing that amount of corn and shredding the fodder.

In making up our account we did not consider the cost of teams, of which there were five, nor our own work, although we were busy the entire time picking husks from the corn as it came from the shredder and dropped in the wagon box. Now, had we husked this amount by hand at current price, which is 4 cents per bushel, where the husker boards himself, we would have paid for 168 bushels at 4 cents, \$6.72, or six dollars and two cents less than where husker was used. Of course, we must add to this the cost of hauling corn from field, which would be one dollar more, leaving a difference of \$5.02, in favor of hand-husking.

Or, in other words, the shredding of 78 shocks of fodder and putting in barn cost us just \$5.02, or about 6 1-2 cents per shock. Now the question is, will it pay to do this when corn is selling in market at 18 and 20 cents per bushel, and hay at \$4.50 and \$6 per ton, when the main advantage to be gained by doing so is the supposed increased value in the fodder and the increased facility in handling it?

It might be said that we get a small amount of corn husked for the force employed in half a day. However that might be, we do not see how we could have increased the results very much. The machinery was first-class and all hands connected with the job were good, energetic workmen and did their work well. The field where corn was taken from was about 80 rods from the barn, which of course caused us to employ one hand and team more than had it been nearer to the barn.

It may be said that the cost may be materially reduced if farmers exchange help as they do in wheat threshing. But this simply saves paying out the cash, but in reality does

not lessen the cost of the work in any way, for every farmer's time is worth just as much when he works at home as when he is employed by someone else, so that the cost remains the same whether paid in cash or labor. And we have written our experience in this new method of taking care of fodder for the purpose of showing the necessary cost for the amount shredded rather than to find any objections to it. For we believe when the business is a little better understood and the cost of the machines lowered to what it should be, the cost of husking in this way may be very much reduced. But until that time, or until prices of farm products rise a good deal above what they are now, we deem it too costly a practice for general adoption by the farmers of the country.

Allen Co., O.

JOHN BEGG.

(There is much truth in what friend Begg says. Were we keeping but a few cows, sheep and horses, and practicing mixed husbandry, we should not cut or shred a single bundle of corn stover. If we had plenty of stover there would be no need of shredding, except that it makes the stover more convenient to handle in feeding, bedding down the stock and handling the manure.—Ed.)

For the Michigan Farmer.

#### USING BUSHEL CRATES.

We have used bushel crates for three or four years, and can fully endorse all Editor Brown says in their favor. But in picking up potatoes we do not distribute the crates about the field.

We built two one-horse boats wide enough to hold two tiers of crates (about 30 inches), and long enough to hold 8 or 10 crates each.

Took two pieces of 3x4 scantling, rounded the under side of one end, placed them the required distance apart, and nailed boards from one to the other. Put on the crates, hitched a horse to one end of each boat and started from the outside of the field, picking towards the center, one row on each side of a boat, then dumping them in the pit or loading them on the wagon for the cellar or market.

An actual test showed that we could not only pick up more potatoes in a given time, but we were saved the heaviest part of the work—handling the crates. The horses did that.

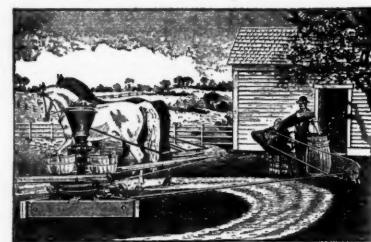
Incis Co., Mich.

D. S. WALDRON.

(This is a good scheme.—Ed.)

BRONCHITIS. Sudden changes of the weather cause Bronchial Troubles. "Brown's Bronchial Troches" will give effective relief.

THE Foss Mfg. Co., of Springfield, O., after years of patient labor upon the market their Scientific Grinding Mills, one of which is illustrated herewith, and which have made an enviable reputation for themselves wherever tried. The popularity of this mill is due to several leading features. First, may be mentioned the quality of



the material, which the manufacturers assure us is the very best procurable throughout. Simplicity of construction, few complicated parts, makes this mill one that is easy to adjust and run and insures it against easily getting out of order. The peculiar construction of the grinding plates makes this a long lived, rapid and large capacity grinding mill. So much faith have the manufacturers in this one feature that they make the broad guarantee that these grinding plates will do better work and more of it than can be done by any other mill made. They also make the same claim as to the amount of power required to operate the mill. These features and many others of undoubted value to the man who seeks a good grinding mill will be found in the Foss Mfg. Co.'s catalogue. Write to them that you are interested in securing a good feed mill and they will send you something of value. Mention this paper when you write.

#### A Good Cheap Farm Wagon.



In order to introduce their low metal wheels with wide tires, the Empire Mfg. Co., Quincy, Ill., have placed on the market a farmer's handy wagon, sold at the low price of \$19.95. The wagon is only 25 inches high, fitted with 24 and 30-inch wheels, with 4-inch tires, either straight or staggered spokes. This wagon is made of best material throughout, and fully guaranteed for one year. Catalogue giving full description will be mailed upon application to the manufacturers, who also furnish metal wheels at low prices, made any size and width of tire to fit any axle.



## Live Stock.

CONDUCTED BY ROBERT GIBBONS.

Address all correspondence to MICHIGAN FARMER  
Detroit, Mich.

### THE BACON HOG.

(Paper read before the Michigan Association of Improved Live Stock Breeders, by N. A. Clapp, of Wixom.)

A poet has written:  
Dame fashion rules mother and daughter,  
She also rules father and son,  
The queen on the throne and the slave  
Are servants to her every one;  
She rules our religion and conscience,  
She also rules friendship and love;  
We'd sooner be out of the world than  
Out of the clutch of her glove.

If the poet had stated in a rhyme that fashion dictates what we shall eat and drink it would have been as true as the above. A little more than a score of years ago the medical journals, as well as newspapers, were condemning the hog as a filthy and unhealthy animal, unfit for human food, and dilating on the merits of choice, well-fatted beef and mutton. A little later the tenor of their observations changed somewhat, and they were praising the merits of the sugar-cured hams of the much despised hog, often remarking that it was fit food for the prejudiced Jew.

Some ten years ago we were considerably interested in listening to an enthusiastic Englishman discourse on the merits of the English Yorkshire bacon. When he told us about "a Yorkshire 'og fed from a year to a year and a half to attain the proper weight for bacon, and then pickled, dried and smoked," a process requiring three or more months, we thought the process too slow and tedious to ever become a fad in these United States. But when the price quoted by the same gentleman was from "heighten to twenty-two-cents per pound" the matter looked considerably different, and we have been wondering ever since if the people in this country would try to imitate their English cousins and become infatuated with the "hidea" just because it is "Hinglish you know." But here we are in the year of our Lord 1897, right in the midst of the bacon boom, and we can not deny that there is a great and growing demand for the much lauded bacon hog.

Well, the question is sometimes asked, "What is a bacon hog?" These are the questions we are asked to answer.

To suit our own convenience we shall divide the hog family into two classes, the lard hogs and the bacon hogs. Well, some will ask, What is the difference? All hogs have repositories of fat, which means lard, and all have sides which means bacon.

The type which the breeders of the so-called improved breeds have been aiming at, has been the short legs, short, broad face, short neck, broad shoulders, broad back and deep hams. This means a predisposition to take on flesh, and consequently produce a large percentage of lard. In looking over the market reports in a paper published just thirty years ago we find lard quoted at 12@12½¢ per pound; bacon, 10 to 10½¢; hams, 11 to 11½¢. These were the prices farmers were contending for then. Lard and hams were ahead. The use of cottonseed has reduced the demand and price of lard, and fashion seems to have changed the demand, somewhat, from hams to bacon.

In describing the model bacon hog we have but to take the opposite of the one just described. The long-body, narrow shoulders, narrow back, flat ribs and light hams, in fact the greater the capacity for side meat the better. We will say that we do not believe that a hog needs to be ridiculously homely, for a hog may have a deep chest, which means deep sides, and at the same time carry pretty good hams. Nor need they have a long, homely head.

Having selected the type of animal desired, the next question arises, How shall it be raised? The popular taste seems to indicate that a large percentage of lean meat is desired. The food certainly has much to do with the quality of the meat. Also the methods of feeding will control the character of the product. The methods of the American farmer have been such as will produce lard hogs, distinctively so. In a majority of cases the pigs are allowed to shift for themselves largely, given scant fare until nearly a year old, and then put in the pen and fed corn until fit for market, and the result is the pig never developed muscle or lean flesh while growing, and all that was accumulated during the feeding period was fat, and that is

the large bulk of the weight, and consequently it is properly called fat hogs.

If we would meet the popular demand let us use a little more of what is called common sense in the feeding and management. We will say that we can select foods that are carbonaceous, or heat and fat producing foods, or we can select those that contain a large proportion of nitrogen, which produces muscle or lean meat, varying the amounts to suit the conditions, time of year, or the objects we seek to obtain. Corn is classed among the carbonaceous foods. If we wish to produce popular bacon we must not use corn alone, especially during the growing period.

To suit those who may be curious in the matter, we will quote the so-called "highest English authority" on how bacon is raised in that country. "From two to five months old they should be supplied with a fair amount of wheat refuse, oats, rye or barley meal, and in summer with clover, lucerne or clover hay; in winter clover hay chaffed, and boiling water poured over it. In summer young pigs should be allowed to run about in the pasture, and in the winter in the open yard. After they are about five months of age they should be confined and fed on meal made from one-seventh wheat, two-sevenths each of barley, oats and rye. This should be ground as finely as possible and fed in a trough dry. Another trough should contain the drink, either water, house slops or refuse from the dairy in shape of skimmed milk or buttermilk. We will state that the popular weights there are from 150 to 170 pounds. It will be seen that a considerable time is consumed to reach those weights.

In Canada the formula is peas, barley, oats and rye, together with pasture, clover, roots, house slops and milk.

In Denmark wheat refuse, bran and shorts, rye, barley and oats, together with skim milk and buttermilk from the dairy.

The three countries, England, Canada and Denmark, are the home of the much lauded breakfast bacon hog, and if their product has reached the acme of perfection and suits the cultured taste of the ones who pay a good price for an article that suits them, it will be seen that if we are to secure a share of the trade at the prices they obtain we must change our methods and equal their product. A year ago our bacon hogs were selling for about four cents per pound, while the Canada bacon hogs were selling for six. The difference in the quality of the product made the difference in the price.

It seems to me that with our facilities for raising and feeding hogs and the great variety of foods to select from, that we can produce side meat as well streaked with lean, and just as juicy and as palatable as can be produced in England, Canada or Denmark. I would select a sow of good size of the bacon type to raise pigs from. I mean one that can give the pigs a good start from the beginning. Then as soon as the pigs were old enough to begin to run around I would give them a trough near by where the mother could not get to it, and I would begin to feed them scalded middlings, barley meal and milk. Let them run to grass and grow. Yes, I mean grow, not fat; for it is during the young days of any animal that they develop muscle and manufacture lean meat, and the more we can encourage the growth while young the cheaper we can produce the meat and the better the quality of that produced. This, I believe, is a point too often overlooked. Some seem to think that when animals are at a standstill, or nearly so, they are making lean meat, when the fact is they are not making anything, and the longer they are held at a standstill the sooner they will reach the point when they never can produce lean meat. If the animal does not make lean meat during the period of life when nature designed it should grow it never can afterwards. We will cite a case. An importer of Shropshire sheep received a consignment and in the lot was one that became very poor during the voyage. For some reason in a few years he thought best to fatten and sell that particular animal, and when it had been slaughtered and hung up it was discovered that all the meat outside that thin, skinny lean that covered the bones during the period of starvation was fat—nothing more.

My formula for making bacon pigs would be milk, middlings, barley meal, bran and oats mixed with corn, increasing the quantity of corn toward the close of the term of feeding. If

kept growing, they ought to reach the required weight, 200 pounds, by the time they are six or seven months old. If fed to the required weight in that time the amount of meat can be produced at less cost than if a year's time is taken.

The question may be asked, Why recommend corn meal if it is a carbonaceous food and produces fat? We will say that a good bacon is composed of both fat and lean intermixed, and that fat produced by other feeds alone is not as firm as that produced with corn and does not hold its size as well at cooking time. We will cite a case. A butcher of our acquaintance while buying some hogs for his trade secured a lot fed entirely on grass, whey and middlings. When slaughtered the flesh was soft and flabby and the lard like oil—almost valueless. If the hogs had been "ripened" upon corn the meat and lard would have been of a desirable quality.

Whether we can make bacon on the American rush plan that will suit the taste of our English cousins, time alone can tell, but to us it seems that the quickly grown meat would be of much better quality than that dried on the bone by the starvation process. We can certainly make a product that is more juicy and palatable. Taste can be improved by using food of good quality, and habit has much to do with taste, and it seems to us that if consumers become accustomed to eating bacon produced by the plan we have described, they would never be willing to return to the dry, stringy meat often palmed off as fashionable bacon. The market to-day demands bacon to be from 60 to 70 per cent fat, well streaked with lean, and in feeding, these are the proportions to be aimed at.

The question may arise as to which breeds are best adapted to making first-class bacon. We believe that the Yorkshire, Berkshire and Tamworth breeds are the most used by those making a specialty of first-class bacon. As to which of these breeds are the best we will say that experiments have proved that the Berkshire makes the meat at the least cost for feed, and always sells at the highest market price. The Tamworth hog is recommended because he is such an inferior feeder one cannot make anything else of him.

Shall we all go to making bacon? is a question that would be well for us to consider before we make radical changes. At present the price in England, from 11 to 14 cents per pound, looks tempting, but when Johnny Bull has his fill he may refuse to buy until we sell cheaper; and then when we have all got at raising bacon hogs there may be a better demand for hams, and as the lard and ham hog can be produced cheaper than the bacon type, the man who sticks to the improved type may succeed the best in the end. It seems to be the American style to all rush at one thing until it is over-done, and then all go for another, and so on until the man who follows the fads has tried many things and not succeeded in anything. One of the benefits that we think, as a people, will be derived by the agitation of this subject, will be to learn better methods of curing and keeping our meat for family use, and when we have learned to make our food more palatable and more conducive to good health we have gained a point well worth our effort.

## Veterinary Department.

CONDUCTED BY DR. W. C. FAIR.

Advice through this department is free to our subscribers. Each communication should state history and synopsis of the case fully; also name and address of the writer. The initials will only be given. When an answer is requested by mail it becomes private practice, and a fee of one dollar must accompany the letter.

Pigs Have Worms.—Christmas morning two-months-old pig fell over in a fit. I feed corn on cob and middlings; have good warm quarters. G. C. L. Clarkston, Mich.—Give powdered arsenic and ground gentian in feed, a tablespoonful to each pig once a day. Let them exercise more.

Scours—Irrregular Molar Teeth.—I have a horse that scours when I drive him and at no other time. D. M., Decatur, Mich.—Have his teeth looked to. He may not masticate properly. Change his feed, drive him slowly, and give him less water while on your journey and before starting.

Sprain of Hock Joint.—Mare five years old hurt both hock joints three weeks ago. I have applied hot water, salt and vinegar. Now one leg is all

right, but the other is swelled all around the hock joint and some below. She is very lame when she first starts. The swelling is not very hard. M. B., Armada, Mich.—Apply caustic balsam once every ten days.

Eczema—Curb—Chafes Easily.—Four-year-old driving mare has a curb. Came on about eight weeks ago. Mare also rubs her mane somewhat and the hair rubs off very easily where the breeching touches her. J. H. V., Woodland, Mich.—Apply kerosene to scalp of mane twice a week. Blister curb with caustic balsam. Apply vaseline to parts of body that chafe.

Worms—Curb.—Mare ten years old rubs her tail every chance she gets. Four-year-old driving mare had a curb last spring but was not lame. I used caustic balsam once a week for six weeks. That took the enlargement partly away. This fall I drove her sixteen miles over a hilly road and she came home lame and the bunch got larger again. I again used caustic balsam but there is still a small enlargement. A. L., Michigan.—1. Give one dram salicin and two drams powdered sulphate of iron twice a day for a few days. 2. Leave the curb alone and it will grow smaller. You have blistered it enough.

Indigestion.—Milch cows gnaw the mangers, and when outdoors will gnaw board fences or any old weatherbeaten wood they can find. Did the same when on good pasture. A. D., Charlevoix, Mich.—Give half an ounce powdered resin, two drams powdered nux vomica and one ounce bicarbonate of soda in feed twice a day. One cow will frequently teach others the habit and in that way a herd get to doing the same thing.

Wound on Leg.—When I was plowing last fall one of my horses got down in muck and made a wound on foreleg which I am unable to heal. F. W. F., Eaton Co., Mich.—No doubt a fungus has grown in wound that is malignant. In order to effect a cure you had better cauterize it twice a week. Burn fungus below level of edges of skin and apply iodoform once a day.

Abscess.—Six weeks ago a four-year-old mare was severely bruised on right forearm. Pus gathered in about four days and the gathering was lanced. Continued lancing every two days for several weeks. About a pint of greenish yellow matter was obtained each time. Finally wound stopped running and began healing. About this time a gathering similar to the first one appeared high up on shoulder and after lancing, a seaton was put in. Wound continues to discharge pus although quantity is gradually growing smaller and wound shows signs of healing. Now a similar gathering has appeared on the left hind leg. Leg swollen from hock to fetlock and extremely sensitive. J. C. H., Springwells, Mich.—Your mare suffers from septic poison. However she may have eruptive fever, similar to distemper (strangles), terminating in abscesses. Give free drainage to abscess. Wash out same with peroxide of hydrogen twice a day and give twenty grains quinine three times a day until she recovers. If swellings appear upon any other part of the body use hot fomentations and warm poultices to hasten suppuration. Keep bowels and kidneys acting freely. Keep lower opening, where seaton is inserted, open in order that pus will run out unobstructed.

## Aches and Pains

Of rheumatism are due to acid in the blood. Hood's Sarsaparilla neutralizes this acid and cures rheumatism. Thousands who were sufferers write that they have felt no symptoms of rheumatism since taking

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## The Horse.

CONDUCTED BY ROBERT GIBBONS.

Address all correspondence to MICHIGAN FARMER, Detroit, Mich.

For The Michigan Farmer.

### WHY STANDARD BRED.

According to fourth and fifth rules for defining what constitutes standard-bred horses, you can breed any ordinary mare to a stallion whose sire is standard-bred, and if the get happens to trot a mile in 2:30 it makes itself, sire, and dam standard-bred.

Now I never was able to see what bearing that performance had on the blood of any of those animals. I have always held that there ought to be a distinction between a standard-bred horse and a standard trotting horse.

Furthermore, I do not think that a horse that is not more than 25 per cent bred, or, what is still worse, has no traceable trotting blood in its veins, should be registered in the same class with a horse whose pedigree comes up to the requirements of the rules, which makes it a standard-bred horse, and, as I understand, has to be 87½ per cent of trotting blood.

My objection to allowing that class of horses to compete with the better bred ones is, that it causes so much disappointment in the produce. A colt from a poorly bred horse seldom has any action, or makes a very stylish driver, while one that is sired by a standard-bred horse will invariably show either speed, style, or action, or the whole three combined, which goes to make up the finest horse in the world—that is, the American trotter.

[The strictures of our correspondent on the present rules of registry of trotting-bred horses are deserved. The rules open up the standard to mongrels and scrubs of the worst description if they happen to have a little speed. To call such animals standard-bred trotters is contrary to the facts as well as good sense. So long as pedigrees are accepted where only the sire is standard-bred this injustice and foolishness will continue. It is singular that the only two breeds of horses originating in this country, the standard-bred trotter and the Morgan, are accepted for registry in the stud-books of the breeds upon a pedigree which would not be accepted in any other breeds of live stock, even the hog. There can never be a pure bred American trotting horse until a certain number of crosses to acknowledged foundation stock, on the part of both sire and dam, is insisted upon as a necessity for securing registry in the stud book. The present standard is a travesty on all the rules of breeding which long years of trial have shown to be an absolute essential for the establishment of a breed.—Ed. Farmer.]

### REMEDY FOR THRUSH.

To the Editor of The Michigan Farmer.

I saw an inquiry some time ago regarding thrush in horses' feet in your paper. I had such an experience 20 years ago, and tried different remedies, but got no help until one day, while in a drug store, I met a veterinary surgeon from a distant town who gave me a receipt which effected a cure with only a few applications. I send you this receipt for the benefit of those who have use for it.

EDWIN KNEELAND.

Clinton County, Mich.

### EXTERNAL APPLICATION.

Carbolic acid, ½ oz.; spirits nitre, 3 oz.; sweet oil, 2 oz.; verdigris, 4 drs.; British oil, 3 oz. The druggist must be careful in compounding this mixture or it will cause an explosion.

### TO BE GIVEN INTERNALLY.

Cream tartar, 3 oz.; nitrate potash, 3 oz.; podophyllin, 2 oz.; zingiber, 2 oz.; sulphate iron, 2 oz.; fenugreek, 1 oz.

Apply the liquid once a day for three days. Give powder twice per day for three days. Repeat till cured. These remedies are also good for foul in cattle and scratches in horses.

### FEEDING MILLET TO HORSES.

As a good deal of millet is raised in this State, the result of a test of feeding it to horses at North Dakota Experiment Station will be of interest.

The horses were first fed two weeks upon hay and grain, then for ten days the millet was substituted for other hay. Then fed as at first for four days. The temperature of the air, the temperature of the horses, the amount of food and water consumed, the weight of the bone, and the amount of urine excreted was carefully noted,

and in some cases the amounts of solids, ash and nitrogen in the urine.

Afterward similar trials were made with two mares. One of these became very lame and could scarcely stand, and she suffered at times from retention of urine. She was killed and a post mortem examination made. The other did not show results as quickly, but after about three months' feeding on millet she would become so lame in the joints of the hind legs as to be scarcely able to walk. When feed was changed to hay she recovered, but the lameness was produced again by a return to the millet feeding. After two years of alternate periods of millet and hay feeding she became practically worthless.

They concluded that feeding millet alone as coarse fodder is injurious to horses. It caused an increased action of the kidneys, with lameness and swelling of the joints. It causes an infusion of blood into the joints and destroys the texture of the bone, rendering it soft and less tenacious, so that the ligaments and muscles are easily torn loose.

### HORSE GOSSIP.

Some Austrian breeders are reported to have commissioned the Vienna trainer, James Brown, to purchase 12 American trotters with fast records before spring.

The Hamlins will send a number of horses to Italy to be disposed of at private sale. If successful we may look for other breeders to take this method of securing the middleman's profits.

A stallion owner is said to have made the following terms for the service of his horse the past year: "One dollar at time of service and \$14 more when you have a bay colt." That should have drawn business.

Goldsmith Maid has one daughter yet living—Rosebud. She has no record, but is in the great brood mare list as the dam of Rigby, 2:30 in 1870, and of Epoch, sire of Dot Miller, 2:20¼ in 1897. Considering her breeding it cannot be said that Rosebud has been much of a success.

The American colt Berzak, which ran second to Galtee More, the best horse of the year in England, in both the Newmarket stakes and the Two Thousand Guineas, became lame after these races, but is now reported as having recovered. He is expected to do well on the English tracks the coming season if he meets with no accident.

The Watch and Ward Society, which was successful in closing all of the trotting tracks about Boston last season, received a setback last week when the court at East Cambridge dismissed the case against John Tyler Hicks for pool selling at Combination Park. Mr. Hicks' plan, it is now said, will be put in operation at Readville, Mystic, Combination and Franklin Parks next season, and meetings of light harness horses held at these tracks.

The N. Y. Journal of Commerce said in a recent issue: "The American Horse Meat Company, of New Jersey, has obtained a license. It is said, from the Kearny, N. J., authorities to carry on the business of making sugar-cured horse hams, smoked horse tenderloins, pickled side ribs of horse, and plain salt horse, all of it strictly for export. At least the company has given bonds to sell none of its products in America, and it claims to have a large trade already established in Europe. The license was granted a few days ago, and the concern will occupy the slaughter-house on the Kearny Meadows, near Frank creek, formerly used for the slaughter of sheep. Dr. J. V. Laddy, a United States meat inspector and a veterinary surgeon, has charge of the plant. He has also given bonds to keep the place free from odors or other nuisances. The horse meat is to be shipped from Kearny packed in cases, and each case duly branded as horse meat. Each package will contain a certificate bearing a notary's attestation that the contents have been duly inspected and are perfectly pure and healthful."

Tom Ochiltree, one of Lexington's best sons, died December 29th at his home in Maryland. He was foaled in 1872, and was therefore 26 years old. He was a large horse, 16.2½, with a great turn of speed and yet able to stay any distance. His dam was Katona, by Voucher, a son of the old four-miler, Wagner; and his second dam Countess, by imp. Margrave, a horse bred by Mr. Gulley, once champion pugilist of England and afterwards a member of parliament. Margrave won the St. Leger in 1832, and was afterwards brought to the United States. Ochiltree began racing when three years old, and won four out of

nine starts, one being the Dixie Stakes, 2 miles, which he won in 3:42½, beating the game little racehorse Aristides and Rhadamanthus. At 4 years old he won eight out of ten starts, including about all the important cup races. He won the Baltimore Cup, two miles and a quarter; the Jockey Club Handicap at Jerome Park, two miles; the Monmouth Cup, two and a half miles; the Capital Stakes, three miles, and the Maturity Stakes at Jerome Park, three miles. At 5 years old he won nine out of fourteen starts, beating such high-class horses as Athlene, Fellowcraft, Cloverbrook and Parole. As a sire he was only fairly successful, but his get have been generally bread-winners for their owners.

When writing to advertisers please mention that you saw their advertisement in the MICHIGAN FARMER.

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THE largest, nearest perfect, and most typical, pure-bred Holstein bull calf, 5 weeks old, in Michigan to-day of his age. Dam "Joanna's Perfection"—whose engraving appeared in MICHIGAN FARMER of Jan. 8th last—that gave in 335 days 14,367 lbs. of milk, testing 4 per cent, butter fat. Price reasonable. B. F. THOMPSON, Detroit, Mich.

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PURE Bred Hampshire Ewes from imp. stock at a bargain for the next 60 days. Inspection invited. J. H. TAPP, Mendon, St. Joe Co., Mich.

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bred to high class rams Better than Klondyke gold. Write at once for price list. A. H. FOSTER, Allegan, Mich.

**SHROPSHIRE HALL STOCK FARM.**—Special prices on 75 choice registered ewes, all bred to imported rams and 30 choice ewe lambs, to make room for this season's second importation, to arrive in January. Also a few choice Polands and Berkshire sows and boars. State agent for the Black Diamond Sheep Dip, the best dip on the market to-day. I have tried them all. L. S. DUNHAM, Concord, Mich.

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**CHESTER White Swine and Lincoln Sheep.** Either sex and all ages for sale. Sows bred for spring farrow. Write A. H. WARREN, Ovid, Mich.

**5 POLAND-CHINA BOARS**, spring farrow, at half price; 40 Pekin Ducks. Get our 1898 catalogue. E. A. CROMAN, Box 99, Grass Lake, Mich.

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**Hastings Stock and Poultry Farm,** breeder and shipper of Poland-China swine, B. P. R. chickens and M. B. turkeys. Write for bargains. WILLARD PERRY, Hastings, Mich.

**Special Sale of Chester Whites** at CASE VALLEY FARM. Lot of fall and spring pigs, dandies, at ¼ their value. Write to-day and secure a bargain. W. W. BALCH, Deford, Mich.

**25 HEAD OF YOUNG BOARS** ready for service 7 to 12 months old. Fine, strong, growthy, of Wilkes, Free Trade and U. S. strains. Prices low for quality. J. R. HAINES, Minerva, Stark Co., Ohio.

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**PRINCE U. S.** heads my herd of Poland-Chinas; he by Corwin King 17071; dam by Kiever's Model, Tecumseh and Black U. S. strains. Also Light Brahma chickens. E. D. BISHOP, Woodbury, Mich.

**KLEVER'S TECUMSEH** heads my herd of Poland-Chinas; weight 200 lbs. at six months, extra length and great depth. Sired by the \$5,100 Kiever's Model, dam by the great Chief Tecumseh 2nd. Write your wants. WM. H. COOK, Waterford, Mich.

**SPECIAL SALE** of Poland-China Boars, to close out. Choice fall pigs. Sows bred to Ideal Chief, 1st prize boar under 1 yr. at Mich. State Fair. Also our herd boar, U. S. Wilkes. A. A. WOOD, Salline, Mich.

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## Sheep and Wool.

CONDUCTED BY ROBERT GIBBONS.

Address all correspondence to MICHIGAN FARMER, Detroit, Mich.

### NATIONAL LINCOLN SHEEP-BREEDERS' ASSOCIATION.

The annual meeting of the National Lincoln Sheep-Breeders' Association was held in the senate chamber of the State capitol on December 21st. President Bert Smith called the meeting together, and made a few remarks on the prospects of the business. The reports of Secretary-Treasurer Daniells were read, and then President Smith called up the first paper on the program, "Conditions Necessary to Success with Lincolns," by Robert Gibbons, of The Michigan Farmer, which is published in full by request:

It gives me much pleasure to meet with you to-day, under the improved conditions and brighter prospects for sheep husbandry in our country, and to congratulate you upon the popularity of the special breed you represent, both in this and other countries.

To properly consider the conditions necessary to success with the Lincolns it must first be required that the parties owning them have Lincolns, not merely sheep claiming that name. The first condition, therefore, is that there must be reliable breeders, who, upon demand, can supply such sheep—Lincolns in name, in breeding, and in type. Given that requisite, the first condition of success with this breed, or any other for that matter, is met.

The next condition is, that the man or men into whose hands these Lincolns go, have some knowledge of their qualities and their requirements, and are prepared to give them proper care and generous rations. Not all men can do these things, unfortunately, and the result is failure and disgust with the breed when the disgust should be with himself—with the man and not the sheep. It is a serious thing for the reputation of the breeder to have his stock go into the hands of a careless, improvident farmer, for they soon look like scrubs and do great harm to the reputation of both the breed and the breeder. There are some men who, while knowing very little about the business of handling sheep, are willing, and even anxious to learn. With them the breeder can safely trust his stock, because they will listen to and profit by his suggestions and advice, and soon become proficient in caring for a flock.

The next condition necessary to success is to have land suitable to keep sheep on, and this I believe to be a prime factor in determining the question of success or failure. In deciding upon that point due attention should be given to the habits of the breed, the conditions under which it has been improved, and the methods pursued by those who have brought the breed into notice, and made it popular. The Lincoln is a large sheep—probably the largest of all the breeds—and must have room and feed in accordance with his size. They grow a large fleece of wool, and the staple is very long. It requires feed to grow that fleece—it cannot be grown from air. The Lincoln belongs in a temperate climate, and this should be considered in establishing markets for your surplus. I would certainly advise avoiding the arid states and territories of the southwest—such as New Mexico, Arizona, and parts of Colorado, with their brown pastures during the summer season, extremely high temperature, and lack of water. Such situations had better be left to the smaller breeds, especially the Merino, in its various branches. For the Lincoln I would look to such states as Illinois, Wisconsin, Minnesota, the Dakotas, Montana, Washington and Oregon. I look upon the three last named as likely to furnish an ideal home for the Lincoln. Wherever land is of a heavy character, such as the clays in their varied characteristics give us, where there are bottom lands with good and abundant water, insuring fine pasturage during the heated term, there is the natural home of the Lincoln, and in such situations he will flourish as no other breed will. Cold will not interfere with him if he is allowed protection against the cold winds and heavy rains. His ample fleece is sufficient protection against cold if kept dry. In fact, for breeding stock I would not counsel breeders or flock-owners to keep their sheep too closely housed. They will be stronger and more vigorous if allowed plenty of exercise in the open air even if quite

cold. A shed closed on three sides and open to the east will be found an excellent protection for your Lincolns, and if it can be supplied with water you will have just the conditions necessary to keep your flock in fine shape during the winter, if supplemented with generous feeding. The basis of winter feeding of a flock I would place as good clover hay, corn-fodder, oats and corn. If these essentials are supplemented with a few roots, rutabagas prepared—or some silage if you have a silo—then there is nothing more to be desired. Of course in other states we must change rations in accordance with their products, but I don't think the Lincoln will ever do its best in a country where clover cannot be grown. We know, however, the corn crop is unknown in its native home, and therefore it is not a necessity, although a great help when available.

But, as a rule, the mutton breeds of sheep, developed as they have been under the peculiar climatic conditions of Great Britain, really suffer more from the warm suns and short pastures of our summers than the cold of winter, and it is more difficult to carry a flock of Lincolns through July and August and keep them from losing weight, than to bring them through January and February with their storms and intense cold.

The careful shepherd, therefore, will make proper provision for this trying time by catch crops of rye, rape, sowed corn, or something of that description, and if this is reinforced with a little grain and a good supply of water, the flock will improve rather than run down, and will go into the fall and winter in good condition. It is sound economy to keep live stock in good condition, for once they are so it is just as easy to keep them in that shape as to keep them poor from lack of feed. They have to have feed enough to keep them alive anyway, and the small additional amount required to keep them well should not be considered by the flockmaster.

As one of the conditions necessary to success I would include perfect confidence between the breeder and his customers. Their interests are so closely connected that it is impossible for one to succeed without the other. The flockmaster who is aiming to bring up the value of his flock by using the best animals he can secure from the breeder, is dependent upon that breeder for success, and certainly the breeder cannot expect to prosper if the stock he sends out fails to meet the requirements of his patrons. With them success must be mutual, as they are interdependent upon each other to a marked degree. As the foundation of future prosperity for your breed, let me beg of every man who is engaged in the business of breeding Lincolns to give it close and careful attention, to select his breeding stock with care, and to cull out remorselessly every specimen lacking in the characteristics of a good sheep as well as a good Lincoln. It may look like a costly method to pursue, but it means an added reputation to the breed and the breeder if followed. Better feed off a lamb not up to the standard than sell it at a low price to be shown as an example of the breed, and the character of your flock for years afterward. Remember that not only is the reputation of the breed, but your own also, entirely dependent upon the quality of the stock you send out. Do not think that a breeding animal has been gotten rid of simply because it has been sold. It will surely be heard from, either to your advantage or disadvantage, in the future.

In conclusion, gentlemen, let me say the future certainly looks bright for those engaged in sheep husbandry. More and more will the farmers of the Union extend their interests in sheep, and greater each year for some time to come will be the demand for all the improved breeds. That the Lincoln will be ignored or forgotten in the general demand I have no idea. On the contrary, I expect to see the demand steadily increase, especially from the West, and I want the breeders of Michigan to profit by that demand to the greatest possible extent. I fully believe that they will do this if they will observe those rules in conducting their business which have always and must hereafter lead to success.

I have thus briefly outlined my opinion of what the conditions necessary to success with the Lincolns must be, and will close by wishing each and every individual breeder here abundant success as the result of having labored faithfully to deserve it.

The suggestions of the paper were generally endorsed by the breeders present. Then L. D. Burch, of the

Sheep-Breeder, followed with an address on the future of Lincolns in the United States, of which we did not get any notes. He was followed by J. Lewis Draper, of Wool Markets and Sheep, with a paper entitled "Success of Lincolns on the Range," which will appear in a future issue of The Farmer.

The Association heartily thanked the parties who had prepared the papers and addresses, and then took up the routine business of the meeting.

The Association instructed the directors to offer as large a premium as they considered right at the Omaha Exposition for both foreign and home-bred Lincolns. Mr. Burch offered to duplicate said premium in one-half the amount, which was accepted.

A. H. Zenner offered \$25 in gold as a premium at Omaha for the champion home-bred sweepstakes Lincoln ram.

The directors were instructed to offer \$60 at Michigan State fair of 1898 for Lincolns, bred in the world.

From the report of the secretary-treasurer it appears that 1,298 Lincolns were recorded the past year, and that there is a balance in the treasury, after meeting all expenses, of \$646.62. Twenty-five shares of stock of the Association were taken during the year, and 35 new members joined.

Resolutions of regret on the death of Fred N. Ely, of Springville, N. Y., were offered and adopted.

The election of officers resulted in the choice of the following: President, Bert Smith, Charlotte; secretary-treasurer, H. A. Daniells, Elva; vice-presidents, E. P. Oliver, Michigan; J. W. Gaines, Wisconsin; C. C. Rice, Illinois; Wm. Oliver, Ontario; H. Z. Leonard, Indiana; H. C. Coburn, South Dakota; F. G. Boyer, Prince Edward's Island; members of pedigree committee, Wm. Shier, Robt. Knight, T. E. Robson; directors, A. H. Warren, Michigan; Graham Walker, Ontario; James Z. Mott, Michigan; George Bigford, Michigan; M. L. Wasson, Michigan.

The Association then adjourned to meet at Lansing in 1898.

### FLOCKS AND FLEECES.

Montana raised about 22,000,000 lbs. of wool last season, for which the growers received an average of 11.48 cents per lb. That state now has over 3,000,000 sheep, which are being rapidly improved by the use of pure-bred rams.

Texans are again purchasing pure-

bred rams with which to improve their flocks. The progress made in that direction before 1892 has been about all lost during the free wool era, when sheep got so cheap that it was difficult to get more than 50 to 75 cents per head for them—or just about what their pelts were worth.

The reports of recent sales of Lincoln rams in the Argentine Republic ought to make owners of such flocks feel pleased with their prospects. One sale at Buenos Ayres of five prize-winning rams brought a total of \$8,600, two of them bringing \$2,000 each. These were bred in England. At Palermo another lot of five brought \$11,000, one of them bringing \$4,500, and another \$2,300. The lot averaged \$2,200. The secret of this demand for the Lincolns is that the cross of a ram on the grade Merino flocks of that country give a lamb with a heavy fleece of long-stapled handsome wool, and a big mutton carcass. The flocks of that country are being Lincolnized very rapidly, and while it is a good thing for flock-owners there at present, it will surely aid materially in advancing the price of pure Merino wools through scarcity.

The following are the officers of the American Cheviot Sheep-Breeders' Association of the United States and Canada, for the year 1898, chosen at the annual meeting held at Coopers-town, N. Y., December 22 and 23, 1897: President, John Laidler, Garrattsville; vice-presidents, Ira S. Jarvis, Hartwick Seminary; N. B. Harrington, Hartwick; T. N. Curry, Hartwick; T. M. Patterson, Pattersons Mills, Pa.; Hon. R. H. Pope, Cookshire, Quebec, Canada; secretary, R. L. Davidson, Cooperstown; treasurer, Geo. I. Wilber, Oneonta; directors to serve one year, George Hall, Middlefield Centre; S. T. Telfer, Burlington; directors, to serve two years, Ira J. Hiller, Four Towns, Mich.; H. E. Riggle, Houstonville, Pa.; directors to serve three years, Edward Severin Clark, Cooperstown; George Lough, Hartwick; inspector, Thomas Laidler, Oakville.

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## Farmers' Clubs.

CONDUCTED BY A. C. BIRD.

All correspondence for this Department should be addressed to A. C. Bird, Highland, Mich.

### OFFICERS OF THE STATE ASSOCIATION OF FARMERS' CLUBS.

President—E. J. Cook, Owosso.  
Vice-President—Mrs. E. L. Lockwood, Petersburg.  
Secretary—C. M. Pierce, Elva.  
Directors—W. H. Howlett, Dansville; C. J. Phelps, Damon; F. M. Whelan, North Newburg; A. L. Landon, Springport; H. Gaunt, Highland; A. P. Greene, Eaton Rapids.  
All communications relating to the organization of new clubs should be addressed to C. M. Pierce, Elva, Mich.

### THE INSTITUTE QUESTION.

The Institute question has been formally decided upon for discussion at the February meeting of the local clubs. In making this announcement some weeks since, we asked our contributors for short articles on the subject for publication during the month of January. In making this request we little realized the intensity of public interest in this question. Within one week after the appearance in this department of the articles signed "Reader" and "Club Worker," together with our editorial, asking for a free expression of opinion on the subjects involved, more than twenty contributed articles had been received by us. The number now exceeds fifty and daily grows larger.

These articles are very evenly divided in their support or condemnation of the present management; and while we should be pleased to publish them all, yet the fact that those now on hand would completely fill the farmers' club department for over two months makes plain the impossibility of so doing.

How to secure a fair presentation of this question from every point of view has caused us no little anxiety. The people are intensely interested. They want the facts. They want them presented fairly on every side. From this presentation public opinion will largely shape itself. To select representative articles from the great number recently received would subject the editor of this department to criticism along the line of having a personal interest in the matter as a public official. In order that every shadow of unfairness may be eliminated we have concluded to adopt the following plan which we believe to be just to all concerned:

First. We shall publish none of the contributions already received.

Second. We have invited four well-known representatives of the diverse views on this question to prepare each an article for publication in this department in the issue of January 29th.

Third. With these articles for reference we urge every local club in the State to discuss at the February meeting the merits of the case and by resolution or otherwise to express in the reports sent to this department for publication the deliberate conclusions arrived at.

Fourth. No other contributions on this subject will be accepted until the people shall have given their verdict at the February meeting of the local clubs.

It may be of interest to our readers to know at this time that we have invited the following gentlemen to prepare these four articles: Hon. R. D. Graham and Hon. A. N. Kimmis, who will discuss from opposite standpoints the question "Should the State Make Appropriations for Farmers' Institutes?" and R. M. Kellogg, and E. L. Lockwood, who will treat similarly the question "Is the Present Management of the Institutes Satisfactory to the Farmers of the State?"

We shall so arrange the work of this department that these articles will all appear in the issue of January 29th and we bespeak for them the most careful reading.

### THE ASSOCIATIONAL QUESTION FOR FEBRUARY.

J. T. DANIELLS.

From the fact that discussion of the question selected by the committee for the December meetings did not, because of election of officers and of other matters claiming attention at the close of the year, receive that full and careful consideration which its importance demanded is abundant reason why further and more full consideration should be given the question at this time, and the committee have wisely so considered it. The State has appropriated a stated amount of money for the support of Farmers' In-

stitutes, and it is the plain duty of those for whose especial benefit this money is appropriated to see to it that the very best results possible are secured in return for the money expended. The discussion of this question should, therefore, be full, fair, and complete. The best interests of all concerned demand this. No worthy matter or worthy methods will ever shrink from or suffer from a full and thorough investigation. If present methods of conducting institutes are correct and satisfactory, investigation will show this. If essential changes should be made, investigation should show this also. Let candid and full expression be given to the results of free and fair consideration. This is but reasonable.

### REPORTS FROM LOCAL CLUBS.

#### WOODSTOCK FARMERS' CLUB.

At the December meeting of this club held with Mr. and Mrs. George Alderdyce, the assembled company listened to remarks by Messrs White and Graves of the Cambridge Club. Mr. White is president of the Lenawee County Association of Farmers' Clubs, which he invited our club to join. The question box contained the following questions: "Should there be any limit to membership in our clubs?" Answer, no. "Of what benefit are farmers' clubs?" was answered by the reading of an article from The Michigan Farmer. The question of joining the county association was answered favorably, and one as to whether convict labor should be abolished, negatively. A question as to whether higher than eighth grade work should be done in district schools showed divided opinions. Some thought the eighth grade as high as should be taught, while those having children of the age to pass that grade, and not being able to send them away, thought higher work should be done. "What part of the farm products should belong to the wife?" was answered variously. Two answers were as follows: There should be but one pocketbook, that a partnership one. After the payment of all debts husband and wife should share equally.

A B dinner will be served at the annual meeting at A. H. Pelham's, January 15th, when names of refreshments will all begin with B.

MRS. J. H. TRUMBULL, Reporter.  
HENRIETTA CENTER CLUB.

The first question discussed at the December meeting held with Mr. and Mrs. James Cowing was regarding the best time to move bees. Some thought in spring, others late in fall, others when they were frozen solid. Tobacco tea was recommended for lice on cattle; burnt alum was said to be the safest way to remove chaff from a cow's eye; Hathaway, or yellow dent, was said to be the best kind of corn; Poland-China and Chester-White were given precedence as the best breeds of hogs; Venice turpentine and red precipitate mixed with lard was recommended for cuts and scratches on farm animals. The question, "How much toll does a miller take who gives thirty-six lbs. of flour for a bushel of wheat?" was answered that the miller takes one-sixth.

The query, "What is the mission of farmers' clubs?" was answered that it is worldwide, and that the general standard of excellence of our farms will be raised by means of them. Opinions differed on the question, "In what respect is the 'new woman' an improvement on the old?" style, dress, beauty and the bicycle each having its advocates.

"Stray Thoughts," by Mrs. Owen Harker, contained among other good things the thought that farmers have much to be grateful for in the abundant harvests and good prices of the past year, and commending the work of the clubs.

The following resolution was unanimously adopted: Resolved, That the Henrietta Center Farmers' Club most earnestly endorses the position taken by Congressman S. W. Smith, of Michigan, with regard to widows' pensions. We are pleased that Michigan has one man in Congress who has the courage of his convictions.

The next meeting, with a roast chicken with dressing dinner, will be held at the home of Frank Gibbins. Question for discussion, "Free Mail Delivery."

J. H. REPORTER.

#### GENOA FARMERS' CLUB.

The club held an enjoyable meeting in December with George Pless, D. M. Beckwith, of West Howell, said among other things, that nearly one-half the population of our country are farmers. They cannot rapidly accumulate

wealth, but by utilizing all coarse foods and grains, maintaining the fertility of the soil, keeping a variety of stock to turn off when prices are best, thereby selling the finished product of the farm, they can most certainly make farming pay.

The institute question was opened by a paper by F. J. Fishbeck, which gave a concise history of institute work from the beginning. Richard Behrens thought they would be more profitable to the farmer if the clubs took more part in the discussions, etc.

MRS. T. J. CONELY, Cor. Sec.  
Livingston Co.  
EAST CAMBRIDGE AND WEST FRANKLIN CLUB.

At the home of Wm. Pentecost, this club elected officers for the ensuing year and delegates to the State convention. President Case made some good points on "Love of Our Farm Homes." He contrasted our reckless love of change with the European love of ancestral lands and home, and counseled the beautifying and improving our homes as a means of increasing our children's attachment to them.

Chauncey Cooper read a splendid paper on "Practical Education," giving high praise to our school system, but showing conclusively that true education has a broader meaning than mere schooling. Some of the thoughts brought out in discussion are: A man's education begins before he is born; when all men and women apprehend this truth the millenium may be looked for. Work along the line of the child's natural abilities. Parents should give more personal supervision of their children's education. We next meet with Wm. Beber, the second Saturday in January.

L. W. GERMAN, Cor. Sec.

#### TROY FARMERS' CLUB.

The old officers all retained for the coming year, was the result of the election held at the annual meeting with Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Hadsell. Mr. Hadsell and daughter and Mr. and Mrs. P. J. Jennings were chosen delegates to the State convention.

The topic, "Which is more profitable, special or general farming?" was well discussed, the majority being in favor of a specialty, making the general secondary. The presence of visitors from the Washington Club added much to the interest of the meeting. We meet with Mr. and Mrs. George Jennings for New Year's dinner.

MRS. GEORGE ELLIOTT, Cor. Sec.

Oakland Co.  
LINDEN, ARGENTINE AND DEERFIELD CLUB.

This club met with Mr. Edwin Pratt, December 4th, at which time the subject of farmers' institutes was discussed. The subject was opened by a paper by President E. F. Leonard, who thought the present method good, but thought a higher appropriation was necessary.

A paper by Mrs. John Fowler, on "The Progress of the American People During the Nineteenth Century," telling of the many inventions and improvements of the century, completed the program; and the club adjourned to meet with George Kelly on New Year's day.

EDWIN PRATT, Cor. Sec.

#### CLYDE AND GRANT CLUB.

This club held its November meeting at Port Huron with Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Wellman. The market facilities of Port Huron were extensively discussed, nearly every speaker agreeing that a market should be established in that city for the benefit of both farmers and merchants.

BRIGHTON CLUB. Reporter.

Our December meeting was held at the home of Ira Bradley. It was the annual meeting and the following officers were elected: President, Gilbert Bradley; vice-president, Milo Beach; recording secretary, Miss Arvilla Sawyer; corresponding secretary, Mrs. Herbert Foote; treasurer, Miss May Ross.

Livingston Co.

MRS. H. N. BEACH, Cor. Sec.

#### PARMA FARMERS' CLUB.

The Union Institute of the Sandstone, Concord, Spring Arbor and Parma clubs, held at Parma under the auspices of the Parma Club, proved a grand success. The A. M. and P. M. sessions were largely taken up with the reading of papers and the debating of questions of direct interest to the farmer. To the full house in the evening, Prof. Field, of the High School, spoke on the subject, "Farmers' Sons and Daughters."

Dean Spencer, of Albion College, formerly of Spring Arbor, gave an interesting lecture on the subject, "The hardest word in the English language to pronounce is 'No.'" He advocated that farmers and farmers' clubs should deeply interest themselves in remov-

ing the great curse of intemperance from our country.

BRAD L. HUBERT, Cor. Sec.  
TECUMSEH FARMERS' UNION.

At the meeting with Mr. and Mrs. Thos. Welliver, Dec. 10th, the president read a paper in which he urged the members to attend the State Convention. Farmers must work out their own salvation. Mr. Smeltzer was elected delegate to the Convention.

In discussion of the question, "Is it the duty of the farmers to sustain the Governor in his effort to have railroads and other corporations taxed the same as other property," the opinion was decidedly that the Governor was right, and that the farmers should uphold him.

L. H. McCONNELL, Cor. Sec.

#### WALLED LAKE CLUB.

At the December meeting, held with Mr. Austin, the resolution with regard to roads was discussed by Messrs. Ranous and McKenney. Motion adopt was lost. The question, "Should the farmer throw away bones and ashes and buy superphosphate," was discussed by Messrs. McKenney and Green, the latter of whom thought the phosphate of value the second year after it is sown. Voted to send fee for membership to State Association.

EARL E. PHELPS, Cor. Sec.

Oakland Co.

#### CONCORD FARMERS' CLUB.

This club met with F. Goodrich in November. Mr. and Mrs. F. E. Hungerford were elected delegates to the State Association. In discussion of the topic, "A Review of the Past Year's Work," Dr. J. L. Parmeter said, "We should not be discouraged in our fight for needed reforms; we have gained much if not all we have sought; we should continue till we have gained needed legislation."

MRS. J. L. PARMETER, Reporter.

#### TECUMSEH FARMERS' UNION.

The Union held its last meeting with Mr. and Mrs. Smeltzer. An interesting feature was a talk by Mr. George B. Horton, Master of the State Grange. He advocated organization of the farmers, either in Granges or farmers' clubs. Much has been accomplished through the Grange. Through Horton's efforts a Grange may be established here.

L. H. McCONNELL, Reporter.

#### WEST AVON CLUB.

This club met in November with Mr. and Mrs. A. G. Griggs. Many good points were brought out in discussion of the question, "Why Do So Many Farmers Fail?" among which are the following: Because of insufficient backing; the man who owns but forty acres, yet schools and brings up his children properly is successful; many fail from mismanagement; it takes brains to farm successfully; it is impossible to draw the line between success and failure; few make a great success in anything, and one man's failure is but the foundation to another's success. Then followed a short discussion of the question, "How far should farmers' wives follow the fashions?"

Oakland Co. CHAS. R. COOK, Sec. Pro Tem.

#### DEERFIELD FARMERS' CLUB.

At the November meeting of the Deerfield Club, held at the home of Wm. Salisbury, the topic, "Should farmers favor the establishing of postal savings banks?" was discussed. As a result a petition was circulated and signed by members of the club asking that postal banks be established in the United States; the petition to be sent to Congress. The topic, "Should farmers' daughters learn dressmaking and fine sewing?" appears from the discussion to have been decided in the negative. In discussion of topic, "Successes and Mistakes," Columbus Cole said he had made a success of plowing early in the spring; had also made the mistake of leaving land so long it baked down and crops did not come up good. On the day following this club meeting, Mrs. John D. Gulick, wife of the president, died. She was highly regarded in religious and social circles and will be greatly missed in the club.

Isabella Co. N. V. COOMER, Cor. Sec.

#### MEDINA FARMERS' CLUB.

At the 11th annual meeting of this club held Oct. 16th at the home of H. J. Wirt, the following officers were elected: O. D. Colgrove, president; Miss Lora Flewelyn, secretary; R. H. Rogers, corresponding secretary. Our club is of the free and easy type, every one who attends being accorded the rights of membership. Our annual fee is ten cents, and our treasury is never empty. Our ladies edit a paper, a number of which is read at each meeting. It is always creditable to its editors.

At our November meeting, held at the home of O. D. Colgrove, the ques-



tion "Along what lines, and to what extent should the farmer be educated?" was discussed. The leader, R. H. Rogers, said: "A farmer needs the same culture to qualify himself for citizenship as other men. He should be a politician, not a partisan, but one understanding the science of government. The State does well to support the Agricultural College with its mechanical and domestic science departments, as well as the professional schools. The only way to dignify labor is to make it intelligent."

W. R. Poncher led in the discussion of "Corn Culture." Manure should be hauled and spread in winter. Ground should be deep plowed and mellow for planting. Cultivation should be shallow and close to plants at first, deeper afterwards. J. A. Poncher and Mrs. John Lathrop were elected delegates to the State convention.

R. H. ROGERS, Cor. Sec.

#### SOUTH EATON FARMERS' CLUB.

At its December meeting this club elected new officers as follows: President, John Casler; vice-president, Joseph Moore; secretary, James Freer; corresponding secretary, J. E. Casler; treasurer, F. Freer; directors, A. Smoke and P. Milborn. The retiring president, J. W. Wall, was elected delegate to the State convention. Though sorry to lose old officers, the club begins the new year with much cheer and hopefulness.

J. E. C., Cor. Sec.

#### WEST AVON CLUB.

The State association meeting was reported to this club at its December meeting by Delegate L. C. Flummerfelt. Mr. Flummerfelt was surprised and pleased to learn how many clubs there are and how much good they are doing, also that such harmony exists between clubs and granges. Was pleased with the Agricultural College, but thought it managed extravagantly. Speakers almost unanimously agreed that it is best to sell crops as soon as ready for market; that on the whole more is made by so doing. The question of woman's rights was discussed, most of the women present expressing themselves as believing their influence greater without the franchise than with it. The question of dehorning cattle came up. Some thought it a cruelty, while others thought it just the thing.

All agreed, in discussion of the question, "What is a man's first duty?" that it is to this country.

MRS. L. W. FISHER, Cor. Sec.

#### CENTRAL FARMERS' CLUB.

Our December meeting was held with Mr. and Mrs. Brayton Read. After a review of the year's work. "Some ideas on the growing of the corn crop" were advanced by Frank Bolender. He attributes his best success to the use of commercial fertilizer in the hill, planting with a hoe, and giving thorough cultivation.

"Sunshine on the Farm" was the title of a paper read by G. A. Smith. He said harmony in the household is one of the essentials. Husband and wife should consult each other and take a helpful interest in each other's work. Some of the points brought out in the discussion were as follows: The saying, woman's work is never done, is not necessarily true; systematize the work indoors and out, and time may be found for reading and recreation. The beauty of landscape should be enjoyed by everybody in the country. The farmer in producing that which makes others happy should find happiness himself. A contented mind is a great source of sunshine. Officers were elected as follows: President, Frank Bolender; vice-president, Mrs. H. J. Maurer; secretary, D. G. Locke; treasurer, Mrs. E. C. Read.

In response to invitation the club will meet jointly with the Lebanon Club at the home of Jay Sessions, Jan. 12.

D. G. LOCKE, Cor. Sec.

#### MERIDIAN FARMERS' CLUB.

At the home of S. N. Pierce, December 17th, this club discussed "The Farmers' Institutes." J. B. Morrison thinks too much of the appropriation is expended for secretary's salary and for foreign help. To bring the institutes close to the farmer there must be a greater proportion of home talent and practical work. The relative values of an arch and a kettle in a jacket for the purpose of cooking feed for hogs were discussed. Preference seems to have been given to the arch, constructed either with white lime, or with three parts clay and one part sand without lime. The latter makes a very solid arch which heat will not crack. S. N. Pierce thinks it profitable to use a tank-heater to heat water for stock. Ducks were decided by the ladies to pay better than chickens. It was de-

cided to invite speakers and visitors from outside to the February meeting, when we expect to spend a more than ordinarily interesting and profitable day. The January meeting will be held with Emory Warren.

MRS. J. B. MORRISON, Cor. Sec.

#### SPRINGPORT FARMERS' CLUB.

A sort of fair was a very pleasing feature of the November meeting of this club, which was held with Mr. and Mrs. L. F. Knowles. The display included wheat, corn, barley, potatoes, beans, apples, squashes, sugar beets, canned fruit, butter and several specimens of fine needle work.

President and Mrs. Griffith were elected delegates to the State Convention, and Mr. and Mrs. B. A. Joy, to the Jackson county meeting.

County Supt. of Schools F. M. Harlow talked on school work. Hoped the clubs would discuss the questions: institute fees, use of library fund for school purposes, and free text books.

Jackson Co. REPORTER.

#### EAST BLACKMAN AND WEST LEONI CLUB.

This club has been organized about three years, and at their December meeting elected the following officers: President, M. H. Crafts; vice-president, Frank Jeer; secretary, Mrs. Chas. Norton; reporter, Mrs. Wm. Bebee. At the January meeting the following question will be discussed: Would woman be any better off if we had woman's suffrage than she is now, taking all things into consideration?

MRS. S. J. MADDEN, Reporter.

Jackson Co.

#### MAPLE RIVER FARMERS' CLUB.

This club was entertained December 30th by Mr. and Mrs. Robt. Purdy. In a few remarks by Mr. E. J. Cook, newly elected president of the State Association, he modestly took none of the honor to himself, but gave it all to the club, which is one of the oldest in the Association and has been represented at all the State meetings. He asked the club to assist in keeping their work up to its usual standard by appointing a committee to help to organize new clubs, which was done. Also he urged all members to leave nothing undone which would advance club work, either State or local, and pledged himself to work to that end. Papers on "An ideal husband" and "Is marriage a failure" were both excellent. In the latter paper the ideas were expressed that to insure its not being a failure, thought for the future as well as for the present, should be taken; that the parties should have reached maturity; and that the dispositions should be in harmony.

The club meets in January with Wellington Clark.

Shiawassee Co. C. P. REYNOLDS, Cor. Sec.

#### WIXOM CLUB.

An exceptionally good meeting was held by this club in December at the home of Melvin Pratt. "The present method of conducting institutes" was discussed with much interest. The institutes themselves were held by all to be a good thing, but many were opposed to a state appropriation for them on the grounds that it is class legislation, while others upheld the method because they thought the institutes would otherwise not be held at all. Suggested improvements were that valuable time at the institutes should not be wasted in light amusements, such as trashy songs; that the State Board should not send men on high salaries to perform such duties as that of chairman of institutes, when there are plenty of men in every locality who can perform such duties equally well. Nevertheless, the institutes themselves and the State speakers were spoken of in terms of highest praise.

A resolution was adopted which was in substance that the State Board of Agriculture be required to publish in the Institute Bulletin an itemized account of the disbursement of the institute appropriation. Also a resolution was carried that we, as a club, are in favor of the institutes as maintained by the State, but insist on rigid economy in expenditures and general management relating thereto.

Oakland Co. B. T. NICHOLSON, Cor. Sec.

#### OAK GROVE FARMERS' CLUB.

At the December meeting of the Cal-edonia and Shiawassee Farmers' Club, held at the home of Mr. N. Wilson, the name of the club was changed to Oak Grove. The session was entirely given up to business. The club will meet with Mr. and Mrs. George Harmon, the third Thursday in January.

Shiawassee Co. SECRETARY.

#### LEBANON FARMERS' CLUB.

This club held its December meeting with Mr. and Mrs. H. Winans. A paper, "Making Farm Life Enjoyable," was read by Mrs. H. S. Holmes. Life on the farm should be as enjoyable as life anywhere. It can be made unenjoyable by slaving, by discontent, by failure to make the most of opportunities, by neglecting appearances of both

# THE DREADED CONSUMPTION CAN BE CURED

Medical Council and Laboratory Department

J. R. Slocum, M. C.

No. 98 Pine Street,

New York, Jan. 10, 1898.

To the Editor of Michigan Farmer.

My dear Sir:-

In reply to your late advice, am pleased to state that I have discovered a reliable and absolute cure for the dreaded consumption; also for throat, bronchial and lung troubles, coughs and catarrh, scrofula, rheumatism, general decline or weakness, loss of flesh and all wasting-away conditions.

By its timely use thousands of apparently hopeless cases have been permanently cured.

I know that there are many of your readers who would be benefited or cured, if they would allow me to advise them in the use of my new discoveries.

So proof-positive am I of their power to cure, based upon actual experience, and to better demonstrate their wonderful merits, I will send Three Free Bottles (the Slocum New System of Medicine) to any of your readers who will write me at my Laboratory, 98 Pine Street, New York, giving name and full address.

Always sincerely yours,

J. R. Slocum, M. C.

**Editor's Note:**—The above is published for our readers' benefit. Every sufferer should take advantage of the liberal offer, and we ask when writing Dr. Slocum, to kindly mention the MICHIGAN FARMER.

Editor.

person and home. On the other hand much pleasure can be had by fostering a love for nature, making home bright and pleasant, having plenty of good books and papers and improving social opportunities.

The annual election of officers resulted as follows: President, Frank Abbott; vice-president, H. S. Holmes; secretary and treasurer, Mrs. E. B. Warne; program committee, Mrs. H. S. Holmes and Mrs. Chas. Martin. Our next meeting will be held jointly with the Central Club, at the home of Jay Sessions.

C. F. ABBOTT, Sec.

#### DEERFIELD CLUB.

The December meeting was held with Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Ducolon. Among other interesting features of the program was a paper by Mrs. R. D. Chappell on "How Can the Farmer's Wife Add to the Finances?" She answered, by watchful care over home, children and husband's interests. Though it does not show the same in dollars and cents she should have equal credit with him. A discussion of the question, "How Does the County Fair Benefit the Farmers?" was opened by a paper by M. O. Safford. He thinks it a benefit because it stimulates thought, investigation and practical tests in the right direction.

The question of life insurance was brought up. It was answered, "Every man should thus provide for his family." "Does it pay to feed hogs at the present price of corn and pork?" was answered affirmatively, but the pork should be gotten ready for market early when the price is best. Feed all farm stock well or do not feed it at all.

Feed the grain and fodder in preference to selling it.

Mr. Ducolon thought our highways might be improved with better results by paying a money tax and hiring the work done under competent supervision.

It was thought best to sell chickens as soon as they weigh from a pound and a half to two pounds. It pays to keep ducks and turkeys longer.

Most of the ladies agreed that it pays to make a rag carpet, provided it is well done. A new club will probably be organized near here soon.

Tuscola Co. REPORTER.

#### SOUTH HENRIETTA CLUB.

Two charter members of this club have been called away by death the present year.

On December 4th the question "Will it be to our advantage to have postal savings banks established in our rural districts?" was discussed and unanimously decided affirmatively.

The ladies' question for January is "Can a woman successfully combine home and public life?" The January meeting will be held with Frank Olney, and oysters will be served.

LETTIE PALMER, Reporter.

#### RICHMOND AND RILEY FARMERS' CLUB.

This club met at Memphis, December 8th. Several questions from the question box were answered, and the Rev. Samuel Jennings gave a talk on heredity. The county road question came up, and after a short discussion it was decided to continue the discussion at the next meeting.

MRS. J. STEPHENSON, Cor. Sec.

The mission of Hood's Sarsaparilla is to cure disease, and thousands of testimonials prove it fulfills its mission well.



## Miscellaneous.

### THE NORTH WALK MYSTERY.

BY WILL N. HARBEN.

[Copyright 1897, by Will N. Harben.]

(Continued.)

"There is one other thing," he said. "I'd like to have the clothes in which old Benton was found. Please have them done up carefully for me. I may have a use for them."

"Easy enough," answered the coroner. "I'll speak to the undertaker about them at once. I wish you luck, Mr. Hendricks. I'm sure you are the right man to throw light on the mystery."

"As you go out," said Hendricks, frowning down the compliment, "please send that coachman to me. I'll wait here."

In a minute Jarnagin entered. Hendricks smiled at him reassuringly.

"Thought you might help me a little, Jarnagin," he began. "Hold your tongue, and I'll see that you don't lose anything by it."

"I am the sort that can do it, sir," said the coachman, already at his ease.

"I know that, Jarnagin," said the detective, throwing himself into an easy chair and biting the end of a cigar. "You see, I want to know something about the people who live in a place where a crime has been committed. Every one can help a little by a suggestion here and there. Now, I have seen every one but this Mr. Allen, who, I understand, has been associated with your late master in his scientific work."

"He has not been here for more than a week, sir," replied Jarnagin. "Him an master had a rumput about some contract or other. I heard 'em quarrelin' one night in this very room, sir."

"A quarrel?" said Hendricks indifferently as he took a match from his pocket.

"Yes, sir," said Jarnagin. "Mr. Allen was a-sayin' that master was not doin' any of the hard work an was continually gittin his name in the papers, while nobody recognized his help at all. He said he was tired of it, an if master didn't sign some paper or other he'd publish somethin about master. They almost had a fight, sir. I heard 'em a-givin each other the lie an a good deal of loud talkin, and then I suppose master must a-kicked Mr. Allen out of the room, for he come out cryin and a-limpin an makin' threats. I see 'im tryin to look in at the library windows, but master had locked the door an gone up to his laboratory. Since then I haven't laid eyes on Mr. Allen but once. He came one day when master was out an went up to his room an looked over some of his papers an went away."

"Which was his room?" asked Hendricks, scratching a match on the sole of his boot and lighting his cigar.

"It's the small one, sir, right over this one."

Hendricks said nothing for two or three minutes. Then he took the revolver from his pocket, went to the window and called the man to him.

"Did you ever see this gun before, Jarnagin?" he asked.

The servant took it and examined it closely.

"I could swear it used to stay in this room behind that big vase on the mantelpiece," answered the man. "I know it by the stock in the handle. I didn't get a good look at it durin' the inquest."

"Whose was it?"

"I don't know, sir. It seemed to belong to the house. Master always kept it loaded for use in case of need. Seemed to me he was afraid some one would try to steal some of his plans an drawin's."

"Where did he keep them?"

"In a big safe in his laboratory."

"Your master has been troubled with excessive nervousness lately, it seems," said Hendricks, restoring the weapon to his pocket.

"Never saw its equal, sir. Half the time he couldn't seem to sleep a wink at night, an then here of late he seemed to be awful hard to please. He's been quarrelin' with everybody—Mr. Ralph and Miss Alice and Mr. Montcastle. He couldn't bear that man in his sight, sir."

"Was it because his daughter seemed to prefer Montcastle?" asked the detective.

"I suppose so, sir. Anyway she likes him, an he is after her if ever a man was after a woman. They met each other at Newport last summer an have been correspondin ever since. Mr. Ralph invited 'im to the house

party. His sister got 'im to do it. Master raised a awful row when he heard what the young folks was up to, but it was too late to stop it. Miss Hastings had already started, an Mr. Montcastle was some place where Miss Alice couldn't reach 'im."

"How long have you been in the family, Jarnagin?"

"More'n 20 years, sir."

Hendricks doubled his beard over his fingers and put the end between his teeth. Lampkin had seen him do it when he was in deep thought. Suddenly he pulled himself together.

"I presume Mr. Ralph and this Boston girl like each other?" he said.

"It looks very much like it, sir," said the coachman, "though she hasn't been showin it much, because Mr. Ralph is a pretty wild youngster. It looks like she's afraid to trust herse'f to 'im. Mr. Ralph is always in debt an has given master a lot of trouble in one way or other. You see, sir, Miss Alice an her was in college together, an Miss Alice told her all about Mr. Ralph before she met 'im, an Miss Hastings was prepared to meet a pretty rapid fellow. She's gone on 'im, though, as I've told Mr. Ralph more'n once. She can't hide it. She pretends to be interested in what the others are sayin or doin of evenin's, but if Mr. Ralph misses his train an can't get home on time she gets so restless she can't sit still."

Hendricks deliberately changed the subject.

"Has Miss Alice had entire charge of the household affairs?" he asked.

"Only since her aunt went away, sir," returned Jarnagin.

"Her aunt? Who's she?" asked Hendricks.

"Miss Martha Benton, master's old maid sister," explained the coachman.

"They sent her off two weeks ago to a mind doctor in Philadelphia. She's there now takin his medicine."

"What ailed her?" asked the detective.

"She had a mighty morbid disposition, sir. She's always sayin she didn't want to live an the like. Mary told me they had a hard time not long ago to keep her from killin herse'f. She bought a bottle of poison an had it ready to take when Miss Alice caught on to it, and her an Mr. Ralph talked the old lady out of it. Them two think the world an all of her. With all her cranky notions she has been a mother to 'em since mistress died."

Hendricks parted his beard and slowly scratched his chin.

"Do you think, Jarnagin," he said, "that your master's irritability could have been due to any physical disease, any mental trouble?"

"I believe he had softenin of the brain, sir," said Jarnagin, looking guiltily toward the door, as if from the consciousness that he was betraying the hiding place of a family skeleton.

"A New York doctor was to see 'im once, an one of the maids overheard 'im say that if master didn't stop losin sleep an worryin it would kill 'im. That was three years ago. Master gave up work an went to Europe. He come back lookin better, but it wasn't a month before he was pacin up an down the north walk at all hours of the night an eternally tinkerin away in his laboratory."

"He has not had medical advice since he came back from abroad?" asked the detective.

"I think not, sir. Miss Alice has been tryin to persuade 'im to do it, but he's been so irritable an full of fancies."

"Fancies?" interrupted Hendricks.

"Yes, sir," said the coachman. "He thought all of us, even his own children, was plottin to ruin an kill 'im."

"Have you ever heard him say anything on that line?" asked Hendricks, carelessly knocking the ashes from his cigar and looking to see if it were burning.

"I heard 'im accuse Mr. Ralph an Miss Alice the other day of wantin to get 'im out of the way so they could handle his money an the income on his inventions."

"What did they say to that?" asked the detective, scratching a match and holding it to his extinguished cigar.

"It made 'em awfully mad. Mr. Ralph swore at 'im, and Miss Alice went to her room cryin."

Hendricks stood up and yawned lazily. He put his hand into his pocket and took out a \$5 bill and gave it to Jarnagin.

"Here's something for you, my good man, but mind you don't say anything about this conversation. It would offend the family, you know."

Jarnagin's eyes sparkled. "I know my place, sir. You needn't be afraid. Besides they'd discharge me if they knew I told you anything."

Hendricks went to the door and looked out.

"I see my friend Dr. Lampkin com-

ing across the lawn. Send him to me here."

#### CHAPTER VII.

Five minutes later Dr. Lampkin entered the library and closed the door after him.

"I got it off," he announced.

Hendricks stared at him vacantly.

"You say you—but what did you get off? I don't understand."

"The telegram for the bloodhound, stupid!" laughed the doctor. "Have you forgotten already?"

"Oh, I remember! Johnson was to bring Nebo. Did you get something to eat?"

"Yes. But what's the matter?" asked the doctor.

Hendricks tapped his forehead with the tips of his fingers.

"To let," he said. "I shall put out a sign at once. It doesn't contain a single idea. My brain is a mud puddle upon the surface of which nothing floats."

"Why, I thought you were getting along finely," replied Lampkin.

Hendricks walked to the window, gazed out on the lawn for a minute, then whirled round suddenly and returned to his companion.

"I say, old man," said he, "I sent you away at exactly the wrong time."

"Why, what's happened?"

Hendricks foiled the question with another.

"What is a man like when he swoons?"

"I don't understand. What do you mean?" asked the doctor.

Hendricks shrugged his shoulders impatiently.

"It's your business to understand. You are a doctor. What did you study medicine for? I mean what would a man look like? How would he fall down? What color would he be?"

"Ah, I see!" said Lampkin thoughtfully. "I—"

"No, you don't see. Answer my question."

"How can I tell how he would fall?" said Lampkin spiritedly. "Different men would fall different ways. A heavy man would go down like a tub of sausage meat, while a thin man might topple over like a billiard cue knocked from a player's hand. As to the color of his face, it would be—let me see—about the color of a chamois skin and—"

"Thunder!" ejaculated the detective.

"You mean flushed?"

"I mean as white as that of a dead man's and cold and clammy, with beads of perspiration standing on it."

Hendricks swore softly.

"You told me not ten days ago that there was nothing for me to learn, and yet just now I was breaking my neck to get water for a swooning man with a face as red as a beet. I'm an ass."

"Who swooned?"

"Nobody, d—n it, according to your own diagnosis. Ralph Benton, however, did a capital piece of acting. He keeled over beautifully just before his name was called as a witness."

"And didn't testify?"

"No; I didn't care for his testimony, though."

"Well, then, what's the matter?"

"Matter? Do you suppose I want to be hopping like mad after water before all those people to give water to a young ass who is playing off on me?"

"What are you going to do about it?"

"Get even with him before this thing is done with. Let's go into the hall. We are losing time."

The library door opened, and Miss Hastings looked in.

"Oh, I beg pardon!" she said, starting to withdraw.

"It's all right," said Hendricks, quickly stepping toward her. "We were just going out. How is Mr. Benton?"

"He is better," replied Miss Hastings. "He is in his sister's room, sitting up."

"We were just starting to look around the house a bit," said Hendricks. "Would you mind telling us which is your room and the one formerly occupied by Mr. Jacob Benton?"

"Mine is at the head of the front stairs on the right as you go up," replied Miss Hastings. "Mr. Benton's was next to it, between my room and his laboratory."

"Thank you. And Miss Benton's room is—"

"On this floor, back of the sitting room, after you cross the narrow passage."

"Mr. Montcastle's is opposite hers, I believe," went on Hendricks.

"Yes."

"Mr. Ralph Benton rooms up stairs, I presume."

"Yes, across the hall from his father's apartment."

"Thank you," said Hendricks, with a pleasant smile and a bow. "We want to look over the premises and shall

begin at the bottom. Come on, doctor."

The detective led Lampkin from the library and down a long hall into which several doors opened. As they were passing Miss Benton's room they heard voices within.

"Montcastle is there," whispered Hendricks over his shoulder, "and while they are detaining him I want to look into his chamber."

The next minute he laid his hand on the knob of Montcastle's door. It was locked. The detective smiled broadly as he took a heavy bunch of keys from his pocket and began to try them in the lock.

"Swiped 'em from Jane during the inquest," he laughed. "She had 'em tied to her waist with a string. I snipped it with my penknife. Saw her just now searching for them on the front lawn. Ah, here we are!" Hendricks pushed the door open, and when they had entered he closed and bolted it.

"Don't want anybody plunging in on us," he explained as his eyes began to rove about the apartment. "Ah!" he cried, pointing to a good sized traveling bag in a corner. "Remember what I told you about the 1:30 train and the cab tracks in the rear and in the front?"

"I remember," said the doctor.

Hendricks raised the bag from the floor to a lounge.

"Completely packed," he said. "Now, I wonder if I can get into it. Ah!" The catch slid back, and the bag opened. It was closely filled with wearing apparel. "By Jove! If every trail was as easy to follow as this one, blind men would become detectives."

"What is it?" questioned Lampkin.

"See that little clock in the corner under the handkerchiefs?"

"Yes."

Hendricks took it out and stood it up on his hand. "See, it is one of the little pendulum affairs that won't run unless it is standing up."

"I see," replied Lampkin mechanically.

"You see only what a baby could see, or else you'd show more enthusiasm over it," said Hendricks. "Montcastle took it from his dressing table or mantel and packed it at exactly 2½ minutes after I this morning. Looks like a short leave taking, doesn't it?"

"It does, indeed," said the doctor.

"By Jove, I—"

"He didn't occupy the bed either last night, for it has not been touched, and there is his nightshirt under his tennis shoes, one of the first things stowed away."

"It looks as if Montcastle knew something about the murder or had something to do with it. Don't you think so?" asked Lampkin.

Hendricks made no reply. He was running through the articles in the bag as deftly as a custom house official after smuggled goods.

"Good!" he cried, suddenly drawing himself up and rubbing his hands together. "You remember the woman's footprints at the side gate along with the man's? She was ready to go too."

"How do you know that?" asked Dr. Lampkin, with bated breath.

"Here is a pair of her boots," said Hendricks, with a low laugh. "If they were a pair of dainty evening slippers tied with blue strings and two sizes too small for the wearer, they would mean nothing beyond yum yum sentiment, but these are heavy walking boots with broad heels and thick soles."

"Miss Benton's boots? Impossible!" cried Lampkin.

"Yes; she packed, too," went on the detective, his eyes beaming with the excitement of the chase. "She found after she had got her bag or trunk filled that she had left out a very necessary article, and he chucked 'em with his."

"Marvelous—simply marvelous!" cried the doctor.

Hendricks closed the bag with a jerk, and as he rolled it on its side and put his knee upon it to draw the straps into place he looked about the room.

(To be continued.)

#### CONSUMPTION CURED.

An old physician, retired from practice, had placed in his hands by an East India missionary the formula of a simple vegetable remedy for the speedy and permanent cure of Consumption, Bronchitis, Catarrh, Asthma and all Throat and Lung Affections, also a positive and radical cure for Nervous Complaints. Having tested its wonderful curative powers in thousands of cases, and desiring to relieve human suffering, I will send free of charge to all who wish it, this recipe, in German, French or English, with full directions for preparing and using. Sent by mail, by addressing, with stamp, naming this paper, W. A. NEVES, 530 Powers' Block, Rochester, N. Y.

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WARRANTED 20 YEARS. No finer goods made. 30 days trial free, pay after trial. VIOLINS 75c and up, in proportion. For full particulars and BIG FREE CATALOGUE, cut this ad. out and send to SEARS, ROEBUCK & CO. INC., CHICAGO, ILL.

(Sears, Roebuck & Co. are thoroughly reliable.—Editor.)



## The Dairy.

We have a complete Dairy and Farm Creamery in constant operation on the Experiment Farm at Climax, Mich. This is personally conducted by J. H. Brown. All dairy correspondence should be sent to Climax, Mich.

### THE EDITOR'S DAIRY NOTES.

#### IN THE COW STABLE—TUBERCULOSIS.

Much as has been written and preached in favor of close and continuous stabling of dairy cattle, we cannot yet believe that it is a safe and profitable practice on the average dairy farm.

As a member of the State Live Stock Sanitary Commission, the writer has made considerable investigation into tuberculosis, its character, contagiousness, and preventive measures.

Our belief is that this disease is more apt to be found in the suburban stables of our large cities, where "hot-house" treatment and feeding prevails the whole year round.

To be sure this disease may find its way into a herd of cattle kept in a model stable, well lighted, with abundant ventilation, rational feeding and treatment. But it is very seldom found in such a stable, unless the germs of the disease are introduced by some already diseased animal transferred from a foreign or neighboring herd.

From all that we can learn so far, it seems to us that the rational treatment of our best and most progressive dairy farmers, located in country districts, give their dairy cattle, conduces to build up and maintain strong, vigorous and healthy animals. Some may expose their cows too much to the inclement weather and the rigorous wintry atmosphere, but there is as much danger in going to the other extreme of housing too closely in a vitiated atmosphere, accompanied by high feeding.

We are of the opinion that tuberculosis prevails far less among our dairy herds in Michigan than some suppose. An idea prevails in some portions of the State, especially among city residents, that nearly one-third of our milk cows are infected with this disease, or something just as bad. We doubt if five per cent of all the dairy cattle in Michigan are thus affected.

The tuberculin test will reveal the disease, if it exists in the system, but does not indicate the degree of intensity thereof. Those valuable animals that respond to the test, and which present, externally, a generally healthy appearance, we should isolate from the rest of the herd.

If feasible we should give these cows a course of treatment that would eradicate the disease, if possible. They should be placed where all the fresh air and sunlight possible could surround them. No liberal feeding of highly concentrated foodstuffs should be allowed.

At the end of six months or more we should again test them with tuberculin. This test would show whether or not the disease still existed, but would be no guide further than that.

We believe that rational treatment would "cure" more than one valuable animal that responded to the test, but was apparently strong, vigorous and, externally, almost perfect in physical conformation.

#### IN OUR OWN STABLE.

It certainly does pay to furnish all the sunshine possible to cows during the winter months, and to make some sort of a windbreak for their protection when out of doors.

Our barns and stables are old, and we must make the most of them under present conditions. It has been impossible to make them look as neat and clean as we would like to see them. But we do all we can to keep the stables renovated, and there are no stinking gutters and bad holes, as one usually finds in old stables. The gutters are water tight, and the cows are kept clean by means of liberal bedding.

It is more work to care for cows in our old stables than it would be in the model affair we have in our mind's eye. But we shall continue to do the best we can, no matter what the "times," or what "party" continues in "power."

#### REGARDING CREAM RAISING.

I have been reading your articles in The Farmer, and wish to try deep setting of milk. We now set our milk in pans, but don't get all the cream, for it is set in a cold place. There are some things about deep setting that I do not understand.

First. Do you do anything with the milk before putting into the pan? Do you strain from the pail into the can?

Second. At what temperature should it be kept to get the most cream?

Third. How long will it take the cream to rise?

I can get cans at our local hardware store, about eight inches in diameter and twenty-four inches deep, with a solid bottom and cover, but not a water-tight cover.

Fourth. Will these cans, immersed almost to the top in a box or barrel of water, be all right?

Fifth. How do you tell when milk is fit to skim?

Sixth. What kind of a strainer do you use in your churn to separate the granular butter from buttermilk?

In answering these questions remember that I am a young fellow, and know but little about such things.

In the summer our milk goes to a cheese factory. We get now a little over twenty quarts a day.

If cream will not rise in shallow pans when it is cold, why will it in a deep can? I have read The Farmer for the past season, and think it is the best paper in existence.

Kent Co., Mich.

D. A. BIELLEMAN.

Will answer your questions in regular order, as written:

First. Strain the milk into the cans just as soon as possible after milking; the sooner the better. If the cows are well along in lactation, heat or treat the milk as stated in recent issues. You can then strain directly into the can.

Second. The water should be as cold as possible, and ice water is all right. It should be cold when the can (or cans) of milk goes into the barrel or tank.

Third. It will take from twelve to twenty hours to secure the most of the cream under this process. You can judge for yourself, by testing the skim milk.

Fourth. Yes, your plan of setting the cans low enough for the water to reach just above the cream line is all right.

Fifth. Your own experience will teach you when the milk is ready to skim. We should skim either at twelve or twenty-four hours from time of setting the milk into the cold water. Generally twenty-four hours will be preferable.

Sixth. We use a horse-hair sieve for drawing off the buttermilk and wash water from the churn. All particles of butter are caught in the meshes of the sieve and returned to the churn. We use an eight-inch sieve. Such a sieve can be bought of the dairy and creamery goods manufacturers who advertise in this paper. Horse hair is preferable to metal wire, as the butter does not stick.

Seventh. Milk and cream in shallow open pans are constantly affected by the varying temperatures which surround the pans on the shelves in the average pantry or kitchen. Warm milk or cream is lighter for the same bulk than cold, because a lower temperature condenses it. Then cream rises faster and more thoroughly when the milk is cooling.

This shows that warm milk should be set in cans, and immediately plunged into the coldest water obtainable. See that the ice water is in the barrel or tank before the cans are set in.

It is better to have the ice broken fine at first when the cream commences to rise. Then larger pieces may be added soon after, to maintain a low and equable temperature. This process is the best for obtaining a practically complete separation of cream from milk, except by use of the centrifugal cream separator. You will readily see that it is almost impossible to secure and maintain a low and equable temperature around the shallow open pan on a pantry shelf.

#### AN ICE HOUSE.

I want to build an ice house for dairy purposes. I have never seen one, and want instructions. We have plenty of help of our own, and need not hire. We have plenty of lumber and timber to make more, with a portable mill on the place. We moved on to this farm a year ago, and I can see possibilities of profit in dairying. Give size of ice house for a ten-cow dairy. Tell how to construct foundation to secure drainage, how to pack the ice, secure ventilation, and all about it.

Clinton Co., Ind.

Our correspondent, Henry Stewart, gives a good plan of an ice house in his work, "The Dairyman's Manual." The foundation should be dug 18 inches to two feet in dry, gravelly or sandy soil, and two feet deeper in clay, and filled up with coarse gravel, broken

stone, etc., then provide drainage from the bottom. This will secure perfect drainage without admitting air below.

Sills of 2x6 plank can be used, toenailing the studs to them. Studs 10 feet long. Weatherboarding horizontal.

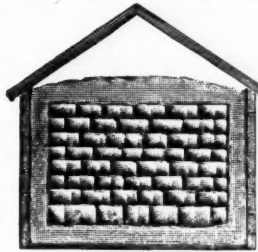


Fig. 1.

Ceiled inside. Pack between with dry sawdust. Nail plates on top of studding, 2x6 inches. Rafters, 2x4, quarter pitch. A house 12 feet square is large enough for all your purposes. Pack the ice in it ten feet square. There will be about 5,000 pounds of ice for each foot in height. Put a foot of dry hardwood sawdust over the bottom. Pack the ice as solidly on this as possible, leaving no vacancies.

In freezing weather the whole can be frozen into a solid mass by throwing water on each layer. There will be a foot of space all around, which must be filled with sawdust as the ice is packed. It will take about 700 bushels of sawdust for a house of this size. Over the top make the sawdust two feet thick. Put a window in each gable end for ventilation. A free current of air should pass over the ice all the time.



Fig. 2.

Whenever the sawdust on the top is distributed to remove ice, carefully replace it. Fig. 1 shows a section of a house and the ice packed in it. Fig. 2 shows how the door is managed. Boards are placed inside of the doorway as the ice is built up, and removed as the ice is taken out. The door must fit snug. Mr. Stewart uses small bundles of rye straw, one of which is shown in the cut, to pack in between the door and the retaining

boards. They are packed in tight, and are just as useful in sealing up the door of a root-house or cellar. The bundles are removed to take out ice, and carefully re-packed afterwards.

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For the Dairy Farmer a herd of good dairy cows and a Little Giant Separator make a winning combination. A good herd is always a profitable investment, yet the returns from it can be increased by twenty per cent. by the use of a Separator. Send

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Better prices, greater purity, endurance, flavor, weight are results of using

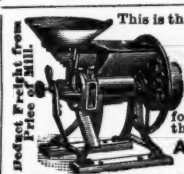
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This is the **QUAKER CITY GRINDING MILL**. For CORN and CORN, FEED & TABLE MEAL. Improved for '97-'98. Send for all mills advertised. Keep the best—return all others. **A.W. STRAUB & CO.** Philadelphia, Pa. & Chicago, Ill. We handle everything wanted at Chicago office, 48 Canal Street.

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the effect could not be much more to your advantage, for, in their proper use, such a saving is effected that the increased profits soon pay for the Separator. We have numerous testimonials that prove the price of the machine is soon returned in the increase in product—to say nothing of the improvement in the QUALITY of the butter. We will gladly send you copies of these endorsements if you request them.

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# THE MICHIGAN FARMER

State Journal of Agriculture.

THE LAWRENCE PUBLISHING CO.,

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DETROIT, SATURDAY, JAN. 15, 1898.

This paper is entered at the Detroit Postoffice as second class matter.

The great poultry show of the year is to be held at Chicago, January 24 to 29, under the auspices of the National Fanciers' Association. The show is to be held at 214-216 East Madison street. W. W. Hogle, 1015 Benson avenue, Evanston, Ill., will furnish full particulars on application. Railways will give special rates to those who desire to attend.

Prospects are favorable for an advance in wool values. Purchases at the east are much in excess of expectations, showing a greatly increased consumption, while the scarcity of good wool, the result of much of the Australian clip being defective, is causing holders to advance their views. Any appreciation abroad will be reflected on this side at once, and the prospects are good that an advance will take place. Until it does, however, we can hardly look for higher prices here, as they are as high as those ruling abroad with the real amount of duty added.

The taxation of inheritances will probably come up for discussion in this State before long, as it is being tried in several eastern ones, notably New York. It is now part of the system of taxation in Great Britain, and produces a large revenue. An instance came up in the English courts recently where an Earl attempted to evade the law by making over to his heir the bulk of his estate before death. Upon the Earl's death, however, the proper officials assessed the whole estate, and the courts have sustained their action. We think a tax on inheritances above a certain amount, is as unobjectionable as a tax as could be levied, and it should be tried in Michigan.

The farmers living along the line of the Detroit & Saline Plank Road are in a fight with the company over the condition of that important highway. While tolls are collected, and very heavy ones, too, along the line of the road, it is frequently very nearly impassable. It long ceased to be a plank road, and is now only an ordinary dirt highway, which is very much in need of repairs. The farmers are determined to have the franchise of the company declared forfeited. It strikes us that toll roads, from which the public gets no benefit except to pay toll, are out of date, and should be abolished. There are several toll roads leading out of this city, and not one of them are maintained as they should be.

## CIVIL SERVICE REFORM.

The question of whether or not the system of appointment to public positions controlled by the National government, popularly known as civil service reform, or the merit system, shall be continued as at present conducted, or repealed or amended, has been under discussion in the lower house of Congress the past week. The debate has been quite acrimonious, with the majority of the speakers, without regard to party, taking ground against the system. Whether it be abrogated, changed in some particulars, or the law left as it now stands, there is good reason for believing that the majority of the people oppose it for one reason or another. Undoubtedly some of those who favor the repeal of the law expect to profit personally thereby; but this cannot be urged against a majority of those who spoke for its abrogation. They are outside of any possible benefit which may accrue to some by its repeal.

We have always opposed the system as un-American, and founded in a deep distrust of the plain people. It is a system to build up an office-holding class which will govern the people rather than act as their paid servants. It destroys opportunities for advancement except through the will of the officials charged with carrying out the provisions of the law. It is an insidious attack against the very principles of our government, because it takes from the people the right to choose their servants, and to replace them with others whenever so disposed. It is a right Americans should never surrender. If they are capable of electing fit persons to fill the offices of president, governor, congressman or judges, then surely they are capable of selecting proper men to fill subordinate positions, either by vote or through their elected representatives.

The whole system is based upon the monarchical idea of the right to hold on to an office once it falls into your grasp, and that no matter how unpopular an official may be, his tenure of office only ends with his life. To show the utter rottenness of the whole system let us revert back a few years. After the friends of President Cleveland had been placed in control of all the offices then outside the civil service law, just before his term closed he extended the rules to cover a large number of these appointees, so they could not be replaced if he was not re-elected. Then President Harrison filled the remaining offices with his friends, and before the close of his term again extended the law to cover a number of thousand more offices. Mr. Cleveland was then re-elected. The remaining offices were filled with his friends, and just before his term ended 46,000 of his appointees were included in the civil service by another proclamation. None of the men appointed by Mr. Cleveland or Mr. Harrison underwent any examination for these positions, but were appointed simply because they belonged to the Republican or the Democratic party. Yet they are there for life, or so long as the civil service law is unrepealed. For their actions in extending the civil service rules over a large number of officials, appointed solely for political reasons, the admirers of the system highly complimented both Mr. Cleveland and Mr. Harrison. The commission were greatly pleased also because it extended their powers. They favored taking the public offices out of politics, although they were filled with politicians. This is following the English system and the German system, where the officials rule the people. We believe in the people ruling the officials, and changing them at their pleasure. No other system is in consonance with a republican form of government. The commissioners who have control of the

civil service machinery are not amenable to the people. They are appointed by the president, and then select the persons to fill vacancies in the various offices. Their methods of administering the affairs of the commission cannot be passed upon by the people. They are entirely removed from any responsibility to the only sovereign power known to a republican form of government. We believe the law should be repealed and the commission retired to private life.

## THAT ANNEXATION PROJECT.

The proposed annexation of Hawaii has been under discussion in the U. S. Senate the past week. One of the strongest advocates of annexation is Senator Davis, of Minnesota. During a long argument made by the Senator, the following question was asked him by Senator Gray: "In case the islands should be annexed is it policy to have them admitted as a State of the Union, with their present mixed population?" To which Senator Davis replied: "Such I do not believe to be the purpose of any one. I myself freely admit that the population of Hawaii is not such at the present time as would be desirable in an American State, and for myself, I may say that I consider the character of the population to be one of the objections to annexation. But the advantage so far outweighs this one element as to render it of comparative insignificance." While the islands might not be made a State of the Union, every individual would become a citizen of the United States, and if they should emigrate to some State of the Union, would have to be accepted as citizens, with all the rights and privileges that term implies. When it is remembered that there are many thousands of Chinese, Japanese and natives on the islands, what annexation means can be easily figured up.

Senator Davis, however, made some statements regarding the result of annexation with which we take issue. He is reported to have said:

"We should take the islands while we have the opportunity, and if we do not want them it will be a very easy matter for us to get rid of them on our own terms."

He showed that they would be a very important territorial acquisition to either Japan, England or Russia, and expressed the opinion that either of these powers would take the islands off our hands at any time we might make known our desire to get rid of them. It will be easy enough to turn them over to some other country in case we find them to be an undesirable acquisition.

We should like to know the process by which Senator Davis proposes to get rid of these islands if once acquired. The rights of citizenship once secured cannot be taken away from these people even at the dictates of the U. S. Senate. And if the rights of citizenship cannot be taken from them, what power is there in the government to sell or transfer the property of citizens to a foreign nation without the consent of the citizens themselves? We do not know of any provision in the constitution which confers any such power upon this government. The Senator might as well talk of transferring his own State and people to the British government without their approval or consent. Mr. Davis seems to place the annexation of these islands upon the basis of a land speculation; that they can be annexed, held as long as thought desirable, and then sold at a bargain. He will find, upon investigation, that the United States government was not formed to speculate in lands, and that one set of citizens cannot transfer the property or persons of another set to a foreign government, even if a good price could be obtained for them.

## A LOSS TO DETROIT.

The death of Albert G. Boynton, for the past 25 years political editor of the Detroit Free Press, on Sunday last, is a great loss to this city. For all the years he was connected with the Free Press Judge Boynton was a firm friend to the best interests of the people of Detroit, and an able advocate of clean government and honesty in public affairs. He had moral courage of a high order, and never swerved from what he believed to be a duty.

Albert Greenville Boynton was born 1837, in Maine, educated in the schools of Bangor, and came to Detroit in 1857. He studied law, and for a time was a member of a law firm. He was then elected Police Justice while yet a very young man, served with ability for two years in that capacity, and then became interested in the Free Press, soon becoming its political editor. Here he became associated with William E. Quinby, and during the succeeding years, under their direction and management, the Free Press has held the leading place among the morning newspapers of Detroit. Its political influence was aided in no slight degree by the firm stand it has always taken for clean and honest journalism, which made it a welcome visitor to thousands of homes of political opponents. To the innate integrity and high moral principles of Judge Boynton this was largely due. We say, therefore, that outside of the great loss suffered by his immediate family and thousands of personal friends, the death of Judge Boynton is a serious loss to the city of Detroit, as well as to clean and honest journalism. There is not a newspaper worker in Detroit who does not know this, and whose sympathy will not go out to his bereaved family. The Farmer cannot refrain from paying this slight tribute to the memory of an honest man, an exemplary citizen, and a writer who aimed to do good, not evil, all the days of his life.

In the appropriation for 1898 for the division of seeds and purchase and distribution of valuable seeds, the Secretary of Agriculture hopes to have a clause inserted providing \$20,000 of the total sum appropriated to be used by him to collect, purchase, test, propagate and distribute rare and valuable seeds, bulbs, trees, cuttings, plants, etc., from foreign countries for experiments with reference to their introduction in this country, such seeds, plants, etc., not to be included in the general distribution of seeds, but to be used for experimental tests to be carried on with the co-operation of the agricultural experiment stations. This is the line of work which The Farmer long ago suggested as the only one which the department should engage in. The other part of the appropriation for the purchase and distribution of seeds should be abolished. It has developed into a complete farce.

## Planet Jr. Farming Up to Date.

Any one who thinks that farming is behind other occupations in enterprise and progressiveness has only to look through the new 1898 "Planet Jr." book, published by S. L. Allen & Co., to be undeceived. The best and most practical application of mechanics to farm and garden work is shown in the various hoes, plows seed drills, cultivators and other implements. These tools have stood the test of many years of practical work and every year shows improvements in the details. The "Planet Jr." tools have decreased the cost and the hard work of farming and have increased the crops and the profit. They have steadily grown in popularity and sales because each one meets a real need of the farmer, doing work that would require a day by old methods, in an hour or less. No progressive farmer, or no one who desires to be up with the times can afford to be without "Planet Jr." implements. The handsome, descriptive book will be sent free on application to S. L. Allen & Co., 1107 Market St., Phila.

## A Favorite Calendar.

With the new year most people discover the need of a new calendar. Among them all the one which suits us best is that published by N. W. Ayer & Son, Newspaper Advertising Agents, Philadelphia. The 1898 edition has just arrived. Perhaps its chief attraction is that the figures are clear enough to be read across a room. It is, however, a most handsome specimen of the printer's art, while its business talk always interests business men. We are not surprised to learn that the edition has been doubled in recent years. Its price (25 cents) includes delivery by mail to any address.



## EATON COUNTY INSTITUTES.

The experiment of holding one-day Farmers' Institutes proved a success in Eaton county wherever an organized effort was made. Roland Morrill was assigned to assist the local talent and presented the topics of "Intensive Cultivation," "Better Business Methods for Farmers," "Commercial Fertilizers," "The Horticultural Outlook," and "Apples and Plums." Mr. Morrill recommends better methods of raising, handling and marketing farm and orchard products. He urges more attention to apple orchards in Michigan, as we can raise better apples than the Ben Davis, which is so largely grown in the Southwest. He also urges more attention to the home and to personal appearance and habits, believing these things elevate dignity and promote happiness and contentment.

The Sunfield meeting was without a head, the appointed leader being in attendance at a meeting of the Board of Supervisors. An afternoon session was held and an organization formed to secure a better meeting next year. Besides Mr. Morrill's talks, Mrs. S. F. Dietsman read "The Guardian Angel," and several questions were asked and discussed.

At Grand Ledge, in the absence of Supervisor J. W. Ewing, Hon. Geo. Nichols, one of the pioneer farmers, presided. Two sessions were held. After dinner Durand Waldo gave an excellent paper on "The Horse's Foot," enumerating its delicate structural parts, and explaining why shoes should be so made as to allow of frog pressure on the ground. Founder, corns and thrush were described. Questions were also discussed.

Windsor Grange led the meeting at Dimondale in the new and beautiful W. R. C. hall. Esek Pray presided at the forenoon session, after which dinner was served in the hall. After dinner N. P. Hull, Master of the Grange, took the chair. E. S. Stacks, of Potterville, gave a good, practical paper on "Milk and Beef." The question box drew out the statement that cows in that locality are not increasing in average production of milk.

At Eaton Rapids the large Red Ribbon hall had a good forenoon audience and the sessions were ably presided over by Scot Rorabeck. C. M. Hunt read a paper on "Potatoes as a Farm Crop," which was well discussed, in which clover sod was preferred, 300 pounds of salt broadcast per acre advocated, and intensive surface cultivation as long as possible commended. J. M. Smith advocated that "Farmers should patronize mail department stores" to some extent so as to live and let live. In the discussion some thought the cash methods required would better be applied to home business, and others thought too many things of purchase and sale were not adapted to the mail order system, so it would be better to cultivate more reciprocal relations between home merchants and farmers, the merchants not being blameless. At the evening session Miss Fannie Leighton read a paper on "Education of Farmers' Children," and Prof. Orr Schurz gave an address of great value on "Advantages of a Country School Education." He advocated more combination of books and practice and commended country associations and surroundings.

At Olivet the business men took charge and provided free halls, coffee and tea, and horse sheds. Hon. Frank N. Green presided. Chas. E. Scott, of Walton, talked on "Up-to-Date Stock Raising and Feeding," advocating improved stock and feeding so as to make as little labor and expense as possible. He pens cattle under cover, and yards hogs with them, about 20 cattle and 20 hogs in each pen. Many men have been ahead of time in introducing improved stock, but that day has passed. In reply to a question as to feeding ticky sheep he said, "Always shear the lambs to avoid ticks." Another would dip in tobacco water. A. D. Moffatt would shear ticky sheep; he feeds in pens so each sheep has 13x48 inches of space. S. W. Gibson, of Bellevue, made "A plea for more permanency in the plans, buildings, fences, drains, highways and surroundings of farmers, as a means of cultivating contentment and satisfaction." C. L. Hogue, of Battle Creek, read a paper on "The Poultry Industry of the United States," citing official figures. In 1895 the poultry and eggs amounted to \$560,000,000, exceeding the wheat crop in value, also say cotton and dairy products. Michigan poultry is increasing rapidly in quantity and improving in quality. Mr. Hogue had charge of a poultry exhibit in another hall, at which 175 chickens and several turkeys, dogs, etc., were shown. During the afternoon 526 persons were present, and 217 teams were counted.

The Olivet cornet band and the College Mandolin Club furnished music. In the evening Weston M. Sexton gave one of the most practical papers on "Good Roads" to which we have listened. He advocated drainage, road machines for turnpiking—the township has eleven machines—and gravel. He said the county was not ready to pay money road tax nor to bond. Prof. F. A. Osborn, of the College, gave a good address on "District Schools." Mrs. Henry Marsh, of Olivet, read a paper on "The Farm Home," which should look upward and work with heart and head for advancement and happiness. Prof. Hamilton King talked on "Slam," to which he expects to carry the influence of the American home, thereby creating a demand for improved manufactures, and enlarging demand for farm products. He eulogized the rural population as the great bulwark against the encroachments of combinations and concentrated power that tends to despotism. He objects to absolute contentment, as all progress has come from discontent, which drives nations onward and upward.

B. E. B.

## SPECIAL ATTRACTIONS AT INSTITUTES.

To the Editor of The Michigan Farmer.

We have at some of our Farmers' Institutes this winter two men from outside of the State who are well known in their respective lines. One is Mr. C. P. Goodrich, of Wisconsin, than whom there is probably no more successful dairyman in the country, taking everything into consideration; and certainly there are few men in the United States more competent at a Farmers' Institute. The other is Mr. T. B. Terry, of Ohio, whose name will be sufficient to attract the attention of farmers to an Institute where he is present. For the benefit of those who would especially like to hear Mr. Goodrich and Mr. Terry, we present here the places and dates of their appointments:

C. P. Goodrich—Essexville, Tuesday, Jan. 18; Bad Axe, Wednesday, Jan. 19; Carsonville, Thursday, Jan. 20; Smith's Creek, Friday, Jan. 21; Komeo, Saturday, Jan. 22; Sheridan, Tuesday, Jan. 25; Ionia, Wednesday, Jan. 26; Mason, Thursday, Jan. 27; Charlotte, Friday, Jan. 28; Dalton, Saturday, Jan. 29; Dundee, Tuesday, Feb. 1; Wyandotte, Wednesday, Feb. 2; Ypsilanti, Thursday, Feb. 3; Howell, Friday, Feb. 4; Davison, Saturday, Feb. 5; Dowagiac, Tuesday, Feb. 8; Berrien Springs, Wednesday, Feb. 9; Sturgis, Thursday, Feb. 10; Coldwater, Friday and Saturday, Feb. 11-12; Hudson, Dairy Institute, Feb. 15, 16, 17.

T. B. Terry—Oxford, Tuesday, Feb. 1; North Branch, Wednesday, Feb. 2; Mayville, Thursday, Feb. 3; Freeland, Friday, Feb. 4; Owosso, Tuesday, Feb. 8; Elsie, Wednesday, Feb. 9; Ithaca, Thursday, Feb. 10; Mt. Pleasant, Friday, Feb. 11; Manchester, Tuesday, Feb. 15; Reading, Wednesday, Feb. 16; Hanover, Thursday, Feb. 17; Burlington, Friday, Feb. 18; Agricultural College, State round up, Feb. 22-25.

K. L. BUTTERFIELD, Supt.

## Indianapolis and Return at Excursion Rates via Michigan Central.

On the occasion of the Monetary convention at Indianapolis January 23d, Michigan Central agents have been authorized to sell tickets at one fare for the round trip. Dates of sale, January 23d, 24th and 25th, good for return until January 28th inclusive. Full information at Michigan Central ticket offices.

## NEWS SUMMARY.

## Michigan.

The Branch County Agricultural Society is likely to lose its grounds through mortgage foreclosure.

Farmington is soon to have a bank of its own. The foundation for the building has been laid, and the whole thing is to be completed by March.

It is reported that several Nebraska farmers have moved to Bay County for the purpose of raising sugar beets. They claim to have made a success of that sort of farming in the far West.

Hon. Albert Greenville Boynton, for twenty-seven years political editor of the Detroit Free Press, died last Sunday evening at the Alma sanitarium, where he had been for the past three weeks. He was obliged, on account of failing health, to abandon his labors about October 1.

The farmers in the vicinity of Northville are very much pleased with the work of the weather signal station which was recently established there. Over 1,500 of the signal cards have been given out, and more are demanded. The signals are given every forenoon by means of a steam whistle, and farmers within a radius of five miles

are becoming accustomed to depend upon and watch for the signals.

The Toledo Ice company's mammoth ice house in the course of erection at Whitmore Lake collapsed one day last week, killing two men instantly, probably fatally wounding five, and injuring a dozen others. There were fully 150 men at work on the building at the time of the accident.

## General.

Theodore Durrant, the California murderer, was hanged on Friday of last week. He died proclaiming his innocence.

The New York office of the American Express Company was robbed of over \$10,000 one day last week. Chas. Braden, Jr., a trusted clerk who has been with the company for ten years, is reported missing.

Major Moses P. Handy, of Chicago, died at Augusta, Ga., last Saturday. Mr. Handy had but recently returned from France, whither he had been sent by President McKinley as American Special Commissioner to the Paris Exposition. He was a newspaper man of great ability and long experience.

In spite of the treachery of several Republican members of the Ohio legislature, Senator Marcus A. Hanna was chosen to succeed himself. Mr. Hanna had merely been appointed senator on the resignation of Mr. Sherman, to serve until the convening of the present legislature. On Wednesday of this week he was elected to serve out Mr. Sherman's term, and also for the new term which begins in March, 1899. The Democrats, and a few recalcitrant Republicans made a strong effort to elect Mayor McKisson, of Cleveland, who is also a Republican.

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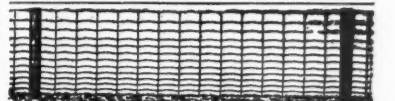
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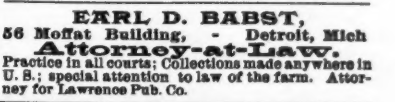
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## The Household.

CONDUCTED BY MRS. ELLA E. ROCKWOOD.

We should be pleased to have any of our readers who take an interest in household topics, send in their views and opinions upon any subject which is under discussion, or which they wish discussed. The invitation is general, and we hope to see it accepted by many. Address all letters for The Household to Mrs. Ella E. Rockwood, Flint, Mich.

For The Michigan Farmer.

### PONY DAN.

Yes, we are comrades, you and I; we've known each other long. And since we are such old-time friends, I greet you with a song. I well remember, "Pony Dan," the day when first we met, When you, a half-starved colt, was brought a present for our pet.

I think your happiest days, "Dan," about that time began; Enough to eat, and loving care you had from every one. While from your little mistress' hand Composed of apples, crackers, salt and sugar plums and cake.

They taught you cunning tricks, "Dan," the children flocked around; To see you dig, with forward feet, potatoes from the ground; And when the master questioned you, "Do you like boys and men?" You shook your head decidedly. The master asked again, "Well, do you like nice little girls?" you quickly bowed your head. The children shouted with delight; again the master said:

"If you and I were out alone upon a desert land, What would you do when night came on?" You laid down in the sand And stretched your neck and closed your eyes. The children, wild with cheer, Crept over you, and petted you, without a trace of fear.

Your fair young mistress took delight in grooming you with care; Your lovely coat of snowy white, with bay spots here and there, Grew smooth and glossy 'neath her hand; then soon, with dextrous art, She sat behind you, reins in hand, all ready for a start.

In fancy I can see you both, she laughing, glad and gay; While you, so sober and sedate, went trotting on your way. You never yet betrayed a trust that we reposed in you; You seemed to realize what rare and precious freight you drew.

I think you've done your part, "Dan," in making people glad; Once, only once, we watched with tears your journey slow and sad. 'Twas when you helped to bear away your sweet young mistress' form, To where we laid her down to rest amid the wintry storm.

And so you cannot leave me, "Dan," past scenes of joy and pain. Return to me with all their power whenever I draw your rein. We'll journey on together, "Dan," whatever ills attend; We're growing old, but we will be good comrades to the end.

Hartford, Mich. MARY-A. SIMPSON.

### HOME CHATS WITH FARMERS' WIVES.

#### HOUSEKEEPING FOR THREE.

I am playing at housekeeping this winter, it being the first time in nearly twenty years that we have been without a hired man to board. This leaves us with a family of three; our hired man boards himself, and for this reason I call it playing at housekeeping, since the contrast between this and the number usually gathered around our board is so great. We are less particular about our time of rising, and also about our meals. As to the latter, neither paterfamilias nor the big boy who calls me mother, are at all exacting, so that helps to make the work easier in this direction. I do not know what it is to have a fussy man to cook for, one who is always finding fault with the victuals and telling how things ought to be done. We have two meals a day, (and any housewife will declare that is enough these short days), a lunch at noon, with a hot supper at night when the big boy gets home from school.

So you see we are not greatly "rushed" this winter, and I can truly say that we are spending a more comfortable winter than for years. I tell you one enjoys having their family by themselves after years of boarding farm help. I have always contended that this latter feature added more to the labors of the farmer's wife than any other one thing. The baking for a small family bothers one somewhat after having six or eight to provide for, but I am now getting that under control. I divide a cake recipe, making two kinds of it, and make pies on small-sized plates, and bake but a single loaf of bread at a time. Do you wonder I call it playing at housekeeping?

To-day I made a white cake after

this formula, and it proved to be very nice:

One cup sugar, one-fourth cup butter, two-thirds cup of sweet milk, one and one-half cups flour sifted with two teaspoonfuls baking powder, whites three eggs.

Cream butter and sugar together, (to expedite this process add a little of the milk), add rest of the milk, beat smooth, then add flour and baking powder, lastly the whites of eggs beaten stiff. I used the lightest brown sugar to-day instead of granulated, as I forgot to send for some yesterday, and the cake is just as nice and white. When granulated is used, have the cup only three-fourths full, as it is so much more solid. A full cup is apt to make the cake too rich. Too much baking powder makes it coarse grained.

I put about one-third of the cake batter into a layer cake tin and baked it. This I made into a cocoanut cake by dividing it in the center crosswise and placing one half upon the other with frosting and cocoanut between and same on top. The other two-thirds went into a quart basin with a cup of chopped hickory nut meats. This suits us better than to have it all baked in one.

In baking cookies I do not object to the usual quantity if they are of the kind that keep well, but for fried cakes a smaller number than usual is desirable, so the following has been evolved:

My present recipe calls for one-half cup of buttermilk, one tablespoonful thick, sour cream, one egg (a yolk only would do as well), two-thirds cup granulated sugar or one cupful of light brown, one-half teaspoonful soda, same of baking powder, a little salt, and one teaspoonful vanilla. Flour to make a soft dough. Roll rather thin and cut in rings. Fry in hot fat. This quantity makes about a dozen and a half. I am thus explicit, so that if anyone with a small family wants to try these recipes they may know what the result will be. It sometimes troubles a young housekeeper to find those which will not make too great quantities.

### SOME SCIENTIFIC FORECASTS.

I always read the "Science Brevities." Not that I thoroughly understand them all, but they will give some light even to the most obtuse—prepare them in part for some of the startling things science at times springs upon us. We learned that the figure of the Holland peasant woman had been acquired by the burden-bearing of preceding generations, and that it was not at all a national feature. This prepared us for the alarming prediction that if cycling continued to be a mode of navigation the coming man will eventually travel upon all fours.

They tell us, too, that strong evidence points to these results; that the American people are returning to the American Indian, a just retribution, perhaps, but not a consummation to be desired. Yet, I confess I was unprepared for the late announcement that in the remote future, women would wear beards. I do not fear this calamity as likely to affect me, unless reincarnation should chance to be ahead and I again figure in my own kind and sex, yet I can but sympathize with my "remote" sisters. Now and then we see such an afflicted woman, probably the shadow of coming events.

Thus have they figured for their conclusions: "The appearance of beards in Homo is analogous to that of horns in other animals, and, just as horns have become acquired by the females of certain species by what is called 'inherited transference' from the males, so will beards be obtained in time for the future females of Homo." They also give us other biological statements. Facial hairiness is exhibited more by the unmarried than married female; that each female receives from her male parent latent beard-characters. If she have children she transmits such characters to them; if not, they develop in her own person.

Now here is business that the new woman wants to attend to. Hasten the time, when "she," not "he," propounds the momentous question that will avert this undesirable end. In fact, it opens up no end of conjecture. If the dress reformer keeps up her present ambition dress will be no distinguishing mark, and it may necessitate the branding of one of the sexes to avert confusion of parties. But, "sufficient unto the day," etc.; no doubt they will be prepared for it, when it comes, and those of us who, in view of advantages the future seems to hold forth, regret we were

born so soon can solace ourselves with the thought—"there will be thorns upon their roses," if science can be relied upon.

Flint.

LUCY SWIFT.

### A VERBENA BED AND SOME LAUNDRY HINTS.

I want to tell the Household sisters how I grow verbenas, and I am sure if they love flowers they will all want a bed of them when they hear how easy it is to grow them.

You must prepare your bed in the fall, making it rich with well rotted manure from the barnyard, and spade in thoroughly so that the dirt is fine and free from lumps. Then sow your seed and in the spring all you will have to do is to wait patiently until the seeds come up. This may try your patience, for they are slow to germinate. When they are up nicely, thin to six or eight inches apart or just as you like them. I suppose that fewer plants will produce larger flowers and a larger variety of colors. Such a bed will last, if properly made, five or six years without being spaded again. It will seed itself each year, and all the working it needs can be done with a trowel after it has been thinned out in the spring. My bed is under the south kitchen window, where I can see the flowers as I wash my dishes or do my other work, and their fragrance at evening especially is very refreshing.

There is another thing I want to speak of, and that is about soft soap. Next spring when you make your soap just put in four ounces of borax and one pint of gasoline to a barrel of soap. Don't add the gasoline until it is cool. This will wash as nicely as any of the soap that you can buy, and it is a real saving where there is a large family to wash for. This is the way I wash with it: I take one bowlful of the soap to a boiler of water. Put the clothes in the cold water and let them come to a boil, putting in the cleanest ones first. Cool the water and add more soap and put in the next cleanest ones, and so continue until all have been put through. I have a good washer and put them through this to suds them, then rinse in bluing water and hang to dry in the sun. Some hang their clothes under the trees in the shade, but they look a great deal whiter to dry them in the sun. If you haven't any washing machine, just put through a sudsing water in the tub, and if there are any dirty bands they will come clean easily by just rubbing them in the hands.

I do enjoy reading the Home Chats and all the rest of the letters in the Household. It is almost as good as getting letters from personal friends.

Macomb Co.

M. K.

### DOUBLE MITTENS ONCE MORE.

Yarn two colors, say black and red. Cast on 22 stitches on each needle with the black, knit one round plain, put in the red, knit three stitches red, three black, three red all around. Having the red yarn on top, knit four rounds which makes the checks square, then commence with the black over the red, and so on. When the wrist is long enough knit one round one stitch red, one black, one red and so on. Next round knit 10, make one stitch (by knitting the loop between the two stitches) with the black. Now you have two black stitches. Knit one (red) then make a stitch of black which brings two black ones together again. Knit once around, then next time around knit ten, make a stitch with red between the two black stitches, knit three, make one of red between the next two black ones. Continue the widening every second round until you have thirty-two stitches for the thumb. Knit four or five times around without making any stitches, then slip the thumb stitches on to a thread and cast on nine stitches in place of those slipped off. Knit two rounds plain. In the third round from the thumb narrow twice (the first two of the nine stitches cast on and the last two). Narrow in the same place every alternate round until there are but sixty-six stitches remaining, twenty-two on each needle (I should have said if your needle with the thumb stitches gets too full to work good slip some of them off onto the other needles, then when you slip the thumb stitches off put them back again). When long enough for the hand, narrow on each end of each needle. Commencing on the first needle at the little finger knit all the stitches but three, then narrow. If the first stitch on the end of the needle is black, narrow with the red which makes two red stitches together on the end of the next needle, knit one (red) slip one, then knit one with black, two black together. Narrow the same way

all around, then knit two rounds and narrow again, knitting the two reds together and two blacks. Knit once around, narrow once around, narrow, then narrow every time around.

For the thumb, take the thirty-two stitches from the thread and pick up nine from the gore. Knit twice around, then narrow twice (the first two of the nine stitches and the last two). Narrow every alternate round until you have 32 or 33 stitches to preserve the stripe all right, then make the stitches even on the three needles, and knit as long as the thumb, then narrow quickly. Knit two narrow, repeat around, knit around twice, knit one narrow all around; then knit once around, narrowing all the stitches till no more remain.

AUNTIE B.

### SHORT STOPS.

Sarah P. sends a pattern for cloth mittens and writes as follows: My husband handles wood every winter and thinks he could not get along without cloth mittens. I buy a yard of heavy canvas duck and it will make three pairs. I take a pair of woolen socks when the feet are worn out, cut them off at the heel and cut a slit in the side to sew a thumb into and put these inside the canvas mittens, stitching around the wrist on the machine. This makes a warmer mitten than you can buy at the store and one which wears well. I do not think it pays to use bags for making mittens.

Auntie L. writes: I am a farmer's wife and am much interested in our Michigan Farmer, and enjoy The Household department; have derived much enjoyment and many helpful ideas from its pages, for we are never too old to learn. I want to say to the sisters, use as much system as possible in doing your work; housework is not easy, but as Mrs. Mary Mayo told us at our farmers' institute, it can be made easier. Do not crowd too many duties into one day. Plan meals and prepare them as nearly as possible ahead; never leave the morning work for afternoon; some unforeseen interruption may occur.

(These are good suggestions, Auntie L., and I believe you could give us more along the same line. Please come again and tell more of your ideas about making housework easier.—Ed.)

Bessie S. writes: If any of the farmers' wives care to know how to make very nice pillows out of hen's feathers and cotton batting, I will write at some future time and tell them how. I have two pairs and think them almost as good as geese or duck feather pillows. They are very much more soft and fluffy than hen's feathers alone.

I have to put up dinner for four men to carry to the woods and wish someone would send recipes for something suitable for cold dinners.

(Certainly we want to hear about those pillows; please tell us. And surely those sisters who have had experience in putting up dinners for men will hasten to aid Bessie S. with suggestions regarding them.—Ed.)

M. writes: One of the gifts prepared for my little daughter, who is much interested in her language work at school, is a medium-sized blank book, the outside covers appropriately decorated with a bit of hand-painting. On each page is securely pasted a picture card or a pretty engraving from some magazine, leaving sufficient space below for a short story to be composed and written down by the little recipient. As most girls like to have some reminder of their first school days, this could be kept with their little keepsakes. Let us try to remember the children's birthdays and have something special, if possible. In the years to come these will remain as bright spots in the memory and will repay us for any extra trouble involved.

L. N. H. writes: In a recent issue M. asks for information concerning plans for conducting a woman's club. I'm not prepared to give any method for organizing such clubs, but would suggest a farmers' club or a grange organization, where the farmer can go and take his wife, sons and daughters, where they have equal rights. In our grange we have a program every time we meet, and among the questions discussed are those pertaining to the farm and home, both indoors and out, and I believe the farmer and his wife are more in sympathy with each other by discussing these questions together. No neighborhood is complete without its grange, farmers' club or some farmers' organization.

Every testimonial published in behalf of Hood's Sarsaparilla is strictly true.



For The Michigan Farmer.

## THE WIDOW'S MITE.

The rich from their bounty were giving,  
And merely a surplus let fall.  
The widow gave all of her living,  
Christ said "she gave more than they all."

Her mite, though the whole of her living,  
She counted it not as a loss.  
Their gold, through the covetous giving,  
To Him was no better than dross.

The Lord was not needing their money,  
The gold and the silver His own;  
The cattle, the corn and the honey;  
If hungry no need make it known.

To Him the whole heart's adoration  
Was more than the gifts that they gave.  
The simple, sincere supplication  
He covets, while waiting to save.  
Fennville, Mich. L. C. H.

## SOME DAINTY NEEDLEWORK.

A lovely table cover for a bedroom can be made of plain white linen with a hem about eight inches wide of colored linen of whatever color your room represents. If yellow, then select yellow for the border, and for the embroidery design scatter a few wild yellow roses (no stems, but put a few of the blossoms to look as if they had dropped from the rose). A lovely one is made with a border of violet-colored linen and has the violets scattered over the white center, worked in four or five shades. This is the latest and prettiest table cover I have seen for some time.

A laundry bag for soiled handkerchiefs is made of the same material, pure white linen, and a spray of butternuts worked in the front of the bag. Let it be drawn together with yellow ribbons at the top. Then make a sofa cushion cover of white linen with a linen ruffle edge scalloped with buttonhole stitch and done in yellow silk floss, and scatter yellow daisies about over the white center. These are not difficult to make and are among the daintiest of gifts. To launder them use some pure, mild soap to make a good suds, but do not rub any on the goods. Rinse in clear water and press on the wrong side while damp. Great care must be taken not to fade the colors. JANE.

## MITTENS.

Since Christmas is over directions for making mittens, both yarn and cloth, are coming in by every mail. Some of these will appear, with patterns, in this department, and we thank all who have responded. This issue of the Household contains instructions for knitted mittens which are rather more explicit than the ones given last week. Sometimes one familiar with the work can follow instructions which might puzzle a beginner, and all directions should be very plain and explicit for this reason. The following letter, received a few days since, will explain itself.

If I had any doubts of the wide circulation of The Farmer and the kindness of its readers, they have been dispelled. My request for a mitten pattern called forth so many responses that I now have enough patterns to last me the rest of my days. I thank all those who so promptly and kindly did me the favor. Were I to thank each one individually, as I should like to do, the length of this letter would consign it to the waste basket. One correspondent expresses the sentiment, "Long live The Michigan Farmer." I think we all can echo this. Another wishes me to state "if I, like him, have a wife, yet have to make my own mittens." I reply, I not only provide myself and two little boys with these necessary articles, but am compelled by circumstances to perform many other duties usually done by the good wife, mine having passed away. Perhaps sometime I may give my impressions of the cares and responsibilities of the one who provides most of the comforts of home.

Very truly, etc.,

GEO. G. WILLIAMS.

We hope Mr. Williams will give to the Household the thoughts to which he refers. He may be assured of the sincerest sympathy of all our readers, including the editor of this department.

## HOME-MADE SWEETS.

It is a little late for Christmas, but candies are good at any time, so perhaps some of the Household sisters may like my recipes. I make every year quite a quantity of cream candies. One can make five or six pounds for what one pound would cost at the store and we like them better.

Get some confectioners' XXXX sugar, a pound of assorted nuts and a few dates or figs. Use the white of one egg, one tablespoonful of water, and sugar enough to make stiff as

dough. Put some sugar on a kneading-board and knead the cream until it can be handled and made into balls. Put there on plates and press the nuts on the top and set away to harden. I only mix up one egg at a time and season each lot differently. Some can be colored pink with fruit coloring, or with the yolks of the eggs. When using the yolks instead of the whites of eggs, I use lemon or orange juice instead of water. English currants are nice to put on the top, or any dried fruit.

I also make candy popcorn, which we like much better than popcorn balls and is not sticky. Use granulated sugar and water with a little fruit coloring. Cook until it will harden in water. Then pour over the popped corn, stirring rapidly all the time.

Salted peanuts are not hard to prepare either. Shell and remove the skins, taking care to keep the nuts whole as much as possible. Stir in them just enough melted butter to grease them slightly. It takes very little. Then sprinkle over quite a little salt and place in a very slow oven. As they heat and the salt becomes absorbed, put on more, till salted enough to suit the taste. Be careful not to get them too brown and stir frequently.

When preparing the Christmas turkey, don't forget to make a rattle-box for the baby out of the windpipe. Clean it, put in a few shot, put one end inside the other, making a ring. When dried it makes a nice rattle. EVA.

## CONTRIBUTED RECIPES.

Southern Spoon Corn Bread.—Pour a pint of boiling water over one cupful of corn meal and boil five minutes, stirring constantly. Add one teaspoonful melted butter, two well beaten eggs, one cupful of water, one of sweet milk and one teaspoonful of salt. Pour into a greased baking dish and bake half an hour in a slow oven. Leave it in the dish and serve it with a spoon. This is one of the best recipes for corn bread.

Roast Turkey with Oyster Dressing.—Clean and wash well a nice, fat turkey. Salt and pepper it inside and out. Take a quart of bread crumbs and one-half a cup of butter (melted), two stalks of celery cut in small pieces, salt and pepper to taste. Mix all together, then fill the turkey by putting in some of the dressing, then a few oysters (about a pint will be required) and so on until all is used. The liquid from the oysters should be strained and put in the pan with the turkey, which has been dredged with flour. Baste frequently. A ten-pound turkey will require nearly three hours baking in a moderate oven.

Potato Puffs.—Take slices of pieces of cold meat and chop fine, seasoning with salt and pepper. Make mashed potato into a paste with an egg. Roll out with a little flour, cut round with a saucer and put some of the seasoned meat on one half. Fold over and fry a nice brown.

MRS. G. P. S.

Scalded Cream.—Save new milk in gallon stone pan in evening, in the morning set on stove and heat gradually to near boiling. Keep in cool place two days; skim for use. If part of milk is scalded in winter butter will churn much easier and is sweeter. This cream is very nice with maple syrup and buckwheat cakes.

Dried Beef.—For twenty pounds of beef use one pint fine salt, one teaspoonful pulverized saltpeter, quarter pound brown sugar. Mix and divide into three parts. Rub the beef with one portion each day till all is used, turning the pieces every day for six days. Hang to dry where it will not freeze. Is best cured in large pieces for summer.

Sausage.—Ten pounds meat, three ounces fine salt, one tablespoon black pepper and a pinch of red, a little sage, a tablespoon of sugar.

AUNT L.

## MAKING GOOD BUTTER AND GOOD GEMS.

A good many years ago I read an article in the New York Tribune by Prof. Arnold on butter making. I have practiced his method ever since, and think it is the best.

There are two things necessary after the butter is churned, one is to get the buttermilk all out and the other is to work the salt in evenly.

The less you can work it and accomplish your object the better. So while it is in the granular state (a revolving churn is the best for the purpose), wash in several waters or until the water is clear, then salt in the churn while still in the granular state,

using one and one-half ounces to the pound or one-half ounce more than you would if dry. You will learn by experience near enough how much butter you have in the churn.

After it is thoroughly stirred in with the ladle (the water draining off all the time), take it into your bowl or worker and press it into rolls or pack as you like, but do not work it over, as it is not in the least necessary and it injures the quality of the butter to do so, as it breaks the grain; besides it is hard work to break it up when it has set and cooled.

If you have it all in a lump before it is washed, work the buttermilk out in water, and work the salt all in at one time. Do not work it over. Try it and you will be pleased with the result.

Now while I am writing I will give my recipe for making graham gems.

To one quart of sweet milk four even cups of good graham flour well stirred together. Have cast iron pans

very hot, grease and fill full and put immediately into a hot oven. Bake until brown.

Mine are light as a sponge, sweet, and delicious, and the most healthful bread ever made. You will think the batter is too thin, but it is not; if you make it thicker the gems will be tough and hard. They are best eaten warm.

Lowell. MRS. J. C. ENGLISH.  
(Mrs. English's method of making butter is exactly the same as the one we have followed for many years, and we certainly recommend it.—Ed.)

Mrs. E. W. Ormes, of Chesaning, Mich., writes that she will send a good pattern for cloth mittens to any one sending stamp for postage.

A letter awaits Flavia in the hands of the Household editor, also a full sized cloth mitten pattern. These will be forwarded on receipt of her address.

## IDEAL GRANDMOTHERS.

Women Who Know the Laws of Nature and Obey Them May Live to Green Old Age.



Mrs. Pinkham Says When We Violate Nature's Laws Our Punishment Is Pain—If We Continue to Neglect the Warning We Die.

Providence has allotted us each at least seventy years in which to fulfill our mission in life, and it is generally our own fault if we die prematurely.

Nervous exhaustion invites disease. This statement is the positive truth.

When everything becomes a burden and you cannot walk a few blocks without excessive fatigue, and you break out into perspirations easily, and your face flushes, and you grow excited and shaky at the least provocation, and you cannot bear to be crossed in anything, you are in danger; your nerves have given out; you need building up at once! To build up woman's nervous system and restore woman's health, we know of no better or more inspiring medicine than Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound. Your ailment taken in time can be thrown off, if neglected it will run on into great suffering and pain.

Here is an illustration. Mrs. Lucy Goodwin, Holly, W. Va., says:

"I suffered with nervous prostration, faintness, all-gone feeling and palpitation of the heart. I could not stand but a few moments at a time without having that terrible bearing-down sensation.

"When I commenced taking Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound I only weighed 108 pounds, and could not sit up half a day; before, however, I had used a whole bottle, I was able to be about. I took in all about three bottles of the Compound, and am entirely cured; now I weigh 131 pounds and feel like a new woman, stronger and better than ever in my life."

So it transpires that because of the virtues of Mrs. Pinkham's wonderful Compound even a very sick woman can be cured and live to a green old age.

## RHEUMATISM

Permanently cured by using DR. WHITEHALL'S RHEUMATIC CURE. The surest and the best. Sample sent free on mention of this publication. THE DR. WHITEHALL MEDICINE CO., South Bend, Indiana.

## PARLOR ORGANS At a Big Reduction.

To sharply reduce stock, we offer unprecedented values. Fine Organs, formerly bringing \$75, now \$47.50. Used Organs from \$15. Don't fail to write at once for catalogue. The world-wide reputation of this house is a guarantee of the quality of the Lyon & Healy Organ. Address, Dept. 103, LYON & HEALY, Wabash Ave. and Adams St., Chicago, Ill.

## SOLD! UNDER A Positive Guarantee

to wash as clean as can be done on the washboard, even to the wristbands and collar of the dirtiest shirt, and with much more ease. This applies to Terrific Perfect Washer, which will be sent on trial at wholesale price. If not satisfactory, money will be refunded. Agents wanted. For exclusive territory, terms & prices, write Portland Mfg. Co., Box 101 Portland, Mich.

HIGHEST GRADE SEWING MACHINE \$5.00 on easy terms and conditions. Details at \$40.00 everywhere. For full particulars and Big Sewing Machine Catalogue FREE cut this ad. out and send to SEARS, ROEBUCK & CO. (Inc.) Cheapest Supply House on Earth, CHICAGO, ILL.

SMOKE YOUR MEAT WITH KRAUSERS LIQUID EXTRACT OF SMOKE. CIRCULAR. E. KRAUSER & BRO. MILTON, PA.

CANCERS CURED. Absorption Process a conceded success. Scarcely a failure in 16 years. No knife. No Caustic. No Blood. No Pain. Write DR. HESS, of Grand Rapids, Mich., for particulars and references. For Cancer of the breast, if not broken out, treatment can be sent.

MOTHERS Your Children cured of Bed-wetting. Sample free. Dr. F. E. MAY, Bloomington, Ill.

## ONLY \$18

—OR WITH— Michigan Farmer One Year Only \$19.



For Our New and Improved High-Arm

## Michigan Farmer Sewing Machine.

WITH ALL LATEST ATTACHMENTS. Warranted 10 Years. All freight paid by us to all points east of the Mississippi River. Self-setting needle; automatic bobbin winder, with oak or walnut woodwork; new bent wood top seven long skeleton drawers. Full and complete set of attachments and illustrated instruction book sent with each machine. Every machine we send out guaranteed to be in every way equal to the best made in America and guaranteed to give entire satisfaction or money refunded. \$18 only, or \$19 with paper one year; cash must be sent with order. If you want the best sewing machine made in the world at the lowest price ever offered, send us your order. Address MICHIGAN FARMER, Detroit, Mich.



## The Markets.

### WHEAT.

There have been no features of interest in the market the past week. Values have ruled weak, but there was a slightly stronger feeling apparent on Thursday, said to be owing to the Letter clique bracing up prices in Chicago. If this is true it is apparent that "corner" is still being kept alive with an eye to future business. Reports from Argentina favor a much less surplus for export than expected. If the visible supply should begin decreasing now there would probably be an advance in prices.

The following table exhibits the daily closing sales of spot wheat in this market from December 20 to January 13, inclusive:

	No. 1 White.	No. 2 Red.	No. 3 Red.
Dec. 20.....	93	93 1/2	89
" 21.....	92 1/2	93 1/2	89
" 22.....	92 1/2	93 1/2	89
" 23.....	92	92 1/2	88
" 24.....	92 1/2	93	88 1/2
" 25.....	92 1/2	93	88 1/2
" 26.....	92 1/2	93	88 1/2
" 27.....	92 1/2	93	88 1/2
" 28.....	91 1/2	91 1/2	87
" 29.....	91	91	86 1/2
" 30.....	91 1/2	91 1/2	87
Jan. 1.....	91	91	86 1/2
" 2.....	90 1/2	90 1/2	86 1/2
" 3.....	91	90	86
" 4.....	90 1/2	90 1/2	86
" 5.....	91 1/2	91 1/2	87 1/2
" 6.....	91 1/2	91 1/2	87
" 7.....	90 1/2	90 1/2	86 1/2
" 8.....	91 1/2	91 1/2	87
" 9.....	91 1/2	91 1/2	87
" 10.....	91 1/2	91 1/2	87 1/2
" 11.....	91 1/2	91 1/2	87 1/2
" 12.....	91 1/2	91 1/2	87 1/2
" 13.....	91 1/2	91 1/2	87 1/2

The following is a record of the closing prices on the various deals in futures each day during the week:

	May.	July.
Friday.....	92 1/2	82 1/2
Saturday.....	92	82 1/2
Monday.....	91 1/2	81 1/2
Tuesday.....	92 1/2	82 1/2
Wednesday.....	91 1/2	82 1/2
Thursday.....	91 1/2	82 1/2

The visible supply of wheat on Saturday last in the United States and Canada was 38,863,000 bu, as compared with 38,816,000 bu the previous week, and 52,872,000 bu at the corresponding date last year. The increase for the week was 47,000 bu.

The Portland Commercial Review estimates the wheat crop of Oregon, Washington and western Idaho at 35,000,000 bu, and the exports and consumption so far at 18,300,000 bu, leaving 16,700,000 bu for all purposes during the balance of the year.

The Review of the River Plate of December 4 says: 'Harvesting is now in full swing in the province of Santa Fe in the north and center. Both wheat and flaxseed are turning out well. Early in the week rain put a stop to harvesting operations, but fine weather has since prevailed. The condition of the crops in Buenos Ayres has greatly improved, in view of the plentiful rains that have fallen in all parts.'

The final report of the Russian central statistical committee makes the following showing for 1897: Spring and winter wheat crops, 339,000,000 bu; oats, 500,000,000 bu; rye, 608,000,000 bu; barley, 228,000,000 bu. The crops in 1896 were: Spring and winter wheat, 338,000,000 bu; oats, 664,000,000 bu; rye, 733,000,000 bu; barley, 240,000,000 bu. There is a total deficiency in all cereals in 1897 as compared with 1896 of 312,000,000 bu.

In order to promote exports the Russian railroad committee has ordered a reduction of 20 per cent in the freight rates on flour going to Russian seaports, and a reduction of 16 per cent on grain intended to be ground at seaports prior to shipment.

The latest Corn Trade News estimate is that Argentina will export 25,000,000 bu of wheat.

### DAIRY PRODUCTS.

#### BUTTER.

Large receipts, coupled with warm, muggy weather, have had an unfavorable influence upon the butter market. This is shown by a decline on all grades, from common dairy to choicest creamery. Quotations range as follows: Creamery, 20¢@21¢; fancy dairy, 15¢@16¢; fair to good, 13¢@14¢; common, 11¢@12¢; low grades, 8¢@9¢. At Chicago the market is quoted dull and slow at a decline. The weather has had a depressing influence upon the trade. Quotations on Monday were as follows: Creameries, extras, 20¢; firsts, 17¢@19¢; seconds, 13¢@16¢. Dairies, extras, 17¢; firsts, 14¢@16¢; seconds, 11¢@12¢. Ladies, extras, 12¢@13¢. Packing stock, 11¢@11 1/2¢; roll butter, 12¢@13¢. At New York the market has been in bad shape from increasing receipts and a very limited demand. In consequence there has been a decline of 1¢@2¢ per lb on all grades, since which the market has shown more activity and steadiness. Quotations in that market on Thursday were as follows: Creamery, Western, extras, per lb, 20¢; do firsts, 18¢@19¢; do thirds to seconds, 14¢@17 1/2¢; do State, finest, 19¢; do thirds to firsts, 14¢@18¢; June make, extras, 19¢; do firsts, 17¢@18¢; do thirds to seconds, 14¢@16¢; State dairy, half-firkin tubs, fall ends, finest, 18¢; do Welsh tubs, finest, 18¢; dairy tubs, firsts, 16¢@17¢; do thirds to seconds, 13¢@16¢; State dairy, firkins, finest, 18¢; do fair to choice, 14¢@17¢; imitation creamery, fancy, 17¢; do seconds to firsts, 13¢@15 1/2¢; factory, fresh, extras, 14¢@15¢; do seconds to firsts, 13¢@14¢; do lower grades, 11¢@12 1/2¢; do June make, extras, 14¢; do thirds to firsts, 11¢@13 1/2¢; rolls, fresh, fancy, 13 1/2¢@14¢; do poor to choice, 11¢@13¢.

Last sales of creamery at Elgin were at 20¢ per lb, with a fair demand.

#### CHEESE.

The markets have changed but little since a week ago. In this market prime full creams are still quoted at 10¢@10 1/2¢, the latter only paid for the choicest. The Chicago market has shifted a little, but the changes are not material. Trade is quiet and without special features. Quo-

tations in that market on Thursday were as follows: Young Americas, 7 1/2¢@8 1/4¢; twins, 7¢@8 1/4¢; cheddars, 7¢@7 1/4¢; Swiss, 9 1/2¢@10 1/4¢; limburger, 7¢@10 1/4¢; brick, 8¢@10 1/4¢. The New York market is improving in tone, and values show an advancing tendency. The N. Y. Tribune says of the outlook: "The current receipts of cheese have continued quite moderate, and with favorable advices from the other side and continued demand from exporters, the exports are exceeding the arrivals, and some reduction has been made from stocks in store. Notwithstanding the comparatively heavy stocks of cheese abroad, the English market is in apparently good shape, and nearly all exporters here have been on the market, and demand has extended to nearly all grades of full cream cheese." Quotations in that market on Thursday were as follows: State, full cream, large fancy, September, 2 1/2¢@3 1/4¢; do choice, October, 3 1/4¢@3 1/2¢; do fair to good, 7 1/2¢@8¢; do common, 6 1/2¢@7¢; do colored or white, small, fancy, September, 9 1/2¢@9 3/4¢; do choice, October, 8 1/2¢@8 3/4¢; do common to good, 7 1/2¢@8¢; light skims, small, choice, 6 1/2¢@6 3/4¢; do large, 6¢@6 1/4¢; part skims, small, choice, 8¢; do large, 5 1/2¢; do good to prime, 4 1/2¢@5 1/4¢; do common to fair, 3 1/2¢@4¢; full skims, 2¢@3¢.

At Liverpool, on Thursday, the finest white and colored American cheese was quoted at 43s 6d per cwt of 112 lbs, an advance of 6d per cwt over the price quoted one week ago.

### DETROIT PRODUCE MARKET.

DETROIT, January 13, 1898.  
FLOUR.—Quotations on jobbers' lots in barrels are as follows:  
Straights.....\$4.75  
Clear.....4.50  
Patent Michigan.....4.25  
Low Grade.....3.75  
Rye.....3.25  
Buckwheat.....3.25  
Granulated Corn Meal.....2.70

CORN.—The visible supply of this grain on Saturday in the United States and Canada was 39,513,000 bu, as compared with 38,421,000 bu the previous week, and 20,526,000 bu at the corresponding date in 1897. Quotations on this market are as follows: No 2, 29¢; No 3, 28 1/2¢; No 2 yellow, 29 1/2¢; No 3 yellow, 28¢ per bu.

OATS.—The visible supply of this grain in the United States and Canada on Saturday last was 14,772,000 bu, as compared with 12,337,000 bu the previous week, and 13,686,000 bu at the corresponding date in 1897. Quotations are as follows: No 2 white, 25¢; No 3 white, 25¢ per bu.

RYE.—The visible supply of this grain in the United States and Canada on Saturday last was 4,100,000 bu, as compared with 4,055,000 bu the previous week, and 3,159,000 bu at the corresponding date in 1897. Market steady at 47¢ per bu for No 2.

FEED.—Jobbing quotations on carload lots are as follows: Bran and coarse middlings, 12¢; fine middlings, 14¢; cracked corn, 13¢; coarse cornmeal, 12¢; corn and oat chop, 11¢ per ton.

BARLEY.—Quoted at 75¢@80¢ per cwt.

TIMOTHY SEED.—Selling at \$1.25 per bushel.

CLOVER SEED.—Prime spot selling at \$3.12 1/2¢ per bu; March, \$3.15. No 2, \$2.80@2.90; rejected, \$2@2.25.

BUTTER.—Quoted as follows: Creamery, 20¢@21¢; fancy dairy, 14¢@15¢; fair to good, 12¢@13¢; low grades, 8¢@9¢ per lb.

CHEESE.—Michigan full cream quoted at 10¢@10 1/2¢ per lb.

POULTRY.—Market steady at following range: Dressed turkeys, 9¢@10¢; dressed chickens, 7 1/2¢@8¢; dressed ducks, 7¢; dressed geese, 7¢. Live poultry quoted 1¢@2¢ lower than above prices.

EGGS.—Fresh receipts quoted at 20¢ per doz; storage, 18¢ per doz.

DRIED FRUITS.—Evaporated apples, 8 1/2¢@9¢; evaporated peaches, 10¢@12¢; dried apples, 5 1/2¢@6¢ per lb.

APPLES.—Fair grades, \$2@3.00; fancy fruit, \$2.75@4.00 per bbl.

HONEY.—Quoted at 10¢@13¢ per lb for ordinary to best.

CRANBERRIES.—Selling at \$8 per bbl for Cape Cod.

BEANS.—Market steady at a range of 90¢@95¢ per bu in car lots.

POTATOES.—Good Michigan stock selling at 55¢@58¢ per bu in carload lots; in small lots 60¢@65¢ is paid. Market firm. At Cleveland fancy white varieties are quoted at 65¢@70¢ per bu; good to choice, 60¢@65¢; car lots, 52¢@57¢ per bu.

BALED HAY.—Best timothy, per ton \$3.50; No 2 timothy, \$7@7.50; clover mixed, \$7@8; rye straw, \$5; oat straw, \$4; wheat straw, \$4.

ONIONS.—Michigan grown, 70¢ per bu. Market firm.

RUTABAGAS.—Quoted at 20¢@25¢ per bu.

CABBAGES.—Quoted at 10¢@15¢ per doz, or \$1.50 per 100.

DRESSED HOGS.—\$3.75@4 per 100 lbs for heavy and 25¢@50¢ more for light butchers' stock.

TALLOW.—Quoted at 3 1/4¢@3 1/2¢ per lb.

GAME.—Jack snipe, \$1.50 per doz; golden plover, \$1.50 per doz; ducks, per pair, canvasbacks, \$1.25@1.50; mallards, 65¢@75¢; redheads, 65¢@75¢; bluebills, 30¢@35¢; wild geese and pintails, 25¢; wild geese, 50¢ each; rabbits, 65¢@75¢ per doz; fox squirrels, 75¢ per doz; bear, 12¢ per lb for carcasses.

PROVISIONS.—Barreled pork and lard are higher, and the general market is firm. Quotations are as follows: Mess pork, \$9 per bbl; short cut mess, \$10; short clear, \$9.25; compound lard, 4 1/4¢; family lard, 4 1/2¢; kettle lard, 5¢; smoked hams, 8¢@8 1/2¢; bacon, 8 1/2¢@9¢; shoulders, 5 1/2¢; picnic hams, 5 1/2¢; extra mess beef, \$3.75; plate beef, \$2.25.

HIDES.—Market firm. Latest quotations are as follows: No 1 green, 7 1/2¢; No 1 cured, 9¢; No 2 green, 6¢; No 2 cured, 8 1/2¢; No 1 cured calf, 10¢@11¢; No 2 cured calf, 9¢@9 1/2¢; No 1 green calf, 9¢; No 2 green calf, 7 1/2¢ per lb; sheepskins, as to wool, 75¢@1.25; shearlings, 20¢@35¢.

COFFEE.—Revised quotations are as follows: Roasted Rio, ordinary, 9¢, fair 11¢; Santos, good 14¢, choice 18¢; Maracaibo, 20¢@25¢; Java, 26¢@30¢; Mocha, 23¢@32¢.

OILS.—No change to note in oils, but turpentine has advanced. Quotations are as follows: Raw linseed, 41¢; boiled linseed, 43¢ per gal, less 1¢ for cash in ten days; extra lard oil, 40¢; No 1 lard oil, 30¢; water white kerosene, 8 1/2¢; fancy grade, 11 1/2¢; deodorized stove gasoline, 7 1/2¢; turpentine, 40¢ per gal in bbl lots; in less quantities, 45¢@47¢ per gal.

HARDWARE.—Latest quotations are as follows: Wire nails, \$1.70; steel cut nails, \$1.65 per cwt, new card; axes, single bit, bronze, 55¢; double bit, bronze, \$5.50; single bit, solid steel, 65¢; double bit, solid steel, \$5.50 per doz; bar iron, \$1.40; carriage bolts, 75¢ per cent off list; tire bolts, 70¢ and 10 per cent off list; painted barbed wire, \$1.75; galvanized do, \$2.05 per cwt; single and double strength glass, 60¢ and 5 per cent off list; sheet iron, No 24, \$2.50 per cwt; galvanized, 75¢ and 10 per cent off list; No 1 annealed wire, \$1.50 rates.

### DETROIT LIVE STOCK MARKET.

#### Michigan Central Stock Yards.

DETROIT, January 13, 1898.

#### CATTLE.

Receipts Thursday, 640; as compared with 493 one week ago. The quality averaged about the same. Market fairly active and 15 to 25¢ below prices paid one week ago; \$4 was highest price paid for 18 steers av 994 lbs, and 6 av 1,146 lbs, but the bulk changed hands at prices ranging from \$2.50 to \$3.85. Common to fair butcher cows, \$2 to \$3.25; bulls, good shippers, \$3.30 to \$3.50; fair to good fat butchers, \$2.75 to \$3.25; common, \$2.50 to \$2.65; stockers, \$3 to \$3.65. Veal Calves.—Receipts, 93; one week ago, 93; active but fully 50¢ per 100 lbs lower; sales at \$5 to \$6 per 100 lbs. Milch cows and springers steady; sales at \$30 to \$50 each, mostly \$35 to \$45.

Bergin & Terhune sold Sullivan a bull weighing 1,790 at \$3.40, 2 mixed butchers to Black av 905 at \$3 and a cow weighing 900 at \$2.25.

Purdy sold Mich Beef Co 3 fat cows av 1,113 at \$3.20, 1 do weighing 950 at \$2.75 and a fat bull to Regan weighing 600 at \$3.15.

Weeks sold Caplis & Co 4 mixed butchers av 1,000 at \$3, 2 heifers to McIntyre av 770 at \$3.65 and a fat cow to Bussell weighing 1,010 at \$3.25.

Shook sold Fitzpatrick 5 mixed butchers av 734 at \$3.50 and 2 cows av 1,285 at \$3.50.

Haller & Co sold Black 2 cows av 1,115 at \$2.75 and 1 weighing 670 at \$2.25.

Spicer & M sold McIntyre 2 heifers av 525 at \$3.50 and 1 weighing 720 at \$3.50.

Scelley sold Fitzpatrick 6 mixed butchers av 881 at \$3.20.

Sharp sold same 2 cows av 1,000 at \$2.90. Ackley sold Robinson a bull weighing 1,100 at \$3.

E O Knapp sold Caplis & Co 5 bulls av 802 at \$2.85, 9 cows av 1,055 at \$3, and 9 mixed butchers av 855 at \$3.25.

Kenny & S sold same 4 mixed butchers av 1,182 at \$3 and 3 do to Schleicher av 633 at \$3.30.

McMullen sold Mich Beef Co 11 steers and heifers av 777 at \$3.30 and 5 mixed butchers av 960 at \$3.10.

Burden sold Bussell a good fat cow weighing 1,270 at \$3.60.

Clark & B sold Padgett 7 feeders av 907 at \$3.75 and 3 steers av 600 at \$3.25.

Joyce & Son sold Sullivan 18 steers av 994 at \$4.

Haley sold Regan 2 bulls av 735 at \$3.15, 6 mixed butchers to Caplis & Co av 863 at \$3.05 and a cow weighing 950 at \$2.50, also 3 stockers to Sullivan av 670 at \$3.50.

Ed Clark sold Sullivan 6 steers av 1,140 at \$4.00, 4 stockers av 625 at \$3.40 and a bull weighing 1,510 at \$3.25.

Clark & B sold Caplis & Co 6 cows av 1,005 at \$2.75, 6 steers av 863 at \$3.75 and a bull weighing 920 at \$3.25.

Johnston sold Kammen 3 cows av 930 at \$3.10.

Shook sold Black 2 bulls av 970 at \$2.50 and a stocker to Sullivan weighing 620 at \$3.25.

Weeks sold Caplis & Co 4 fat heifers av 620 at \$3.25.

Sprague sold same a good sausage bull weighing 1,300 at \$3.25 and 2 cows to Costello av 765 at \$2.85.

Dillon sold Fitzpatrick 9 mixed butchers av 771 at \$3.50.

G J Smith sold Caplis & Co 10 mixed butchers av 782 at \$3.55 and a cow weighing 1,000 at \$2.50.

Patrick sold Mich Beef Co 9 steers and heifers av 900 at \$3.85, 6 do av 778 at \$3.85, 2 stockers av 500 at \$3.25 and a fat cow weighing 1,240 at \$3.25.

Estep sold Sullivan a bull weighing 1,830 at \$3.50, 1 do to Black weighing 1,280 at \$3.25, 5 steers and heifers av 942 at \$3.87 1/2 and 3 mixed butchers av 856 at \$3.25.

Mayer sold Caplis & Co 6 cows and bulls av 1,043 at \$3.00.

Murphy sold Fitzpatrick 2 steers av 865 at \$3.85.

Dennis sold Caplis & Co 16 steers and heifers av 800 at \$3.70 and 2 cows av 975 at \$3.00.

Hawley sold Mich Beef Co a bull weighing 1,450 at \$3.40.

Burden sold same 7 steers av 743 at \$3.75 and a canner weighing 1,130 at \$2.00.

Spicer & M sold same 18 stockers av 663 at \$3.40.

#### SHEEP AND LAMBS.

Receipts Thursday, 725; one week ago, 1,240. Market active and strong to 10¢ higher. Range of prices: Good to choice lambs, \$5.30 to \$5.65; light to good, \$4.50 to \$5.25; fair to good mixed butchers, \$3.40 to \$4.50; culls common, \$2.75 to \$3.35.

Sprague sold Murrey 17 lambs av 77 at \$5.30 and 9 fat sheep av 97 at \$4.30.

Sharp sold Mich Beef Co 18 lambs av 65 at \$5.00 and 5 fat sheep av 96 at \$4.00.

Weeks sold Monaghan 44 lambs av 89 at \$4.55.

Young sold Mich Beef Co 24 lambs av 75 at \$5.40.

Smith sold same 12 lambs av 96 at \$5.35 and 12 mixed av 80 at \$3.50.

Gardner sold Sullivan Beef Co 23 lambs av 81 at \$4.90.

Burden sold Hammond, S & Co 14 lambs av 77 at \$5.45.

Carter sold Sullivan Beef Co 13 mixed av 82 at \$4.00.

Mayer sold Fitzpatrick 34 lambs av 88 at \$5.50 and 63 mixed av 92 at \$4.25.

Murphy sold Hammond, S & Co 15 lambs av 108 at \$5.60.

Hawley sold Sullivan Beef Co 42 lambs av 90 at \$5.10.

Ackley sold same 15 lambs av 92 at \$5.65.

Belhimer sold Hiser 13 lambs av 90 at \$5.40.

Lomason sold Young 21 lambs av 87 at \$5.00.

Stephens sold Hiser 52 mixed av 89 at \$4.35.

Roe & Holmes sold Fitzpatrick 30 mixed av 88 at \$4.35.

Spicer & M sold Hammond, S & Co 40 lambs av 84 at \$5.55.

Sweet sold Monaghan 55 lambs av 73 at \$5.00.

#### HOGS.

Receipts, Thursday, 4,607, as compared with 4,769 one week ago. There is no change to note in quality. Market active; all sold at prices about even with those paid last Friday. Range, \$3.45 to \$3.60, bulk at \$3.55 to \$3.57 1/2; stags 1-3 off; roughs, \$2.75 to \$3.25; pigs, \$3.50 to \$3.70.

Knapp sold same 85 av 167 at \$3.57 1/2.

Spencer sold same 79 av 191 lbs at \$3.57 1/2.

Purdy sold Parker, Webb & Co 53 av 192 at \$3.55.

Simmons sold same 36 av 199 at \$3.55.

Shook sold same 48 av 148 at \$3.55.

Brophy sold same 47 av 174 at \$3.55.

Mayer sold same 57 av 212 at \$3.55.

Van Buskirk sold same 140 av 149 at \$3.50.

Haley sold same 59 av 190 at \$3.55.

Robb sold same 67 av 164 at \$3.57 1/2.

Roe & Holmes sold same 135 av 169, 69 av 200, 57 av 159, 7 av 369, and 20 av 194, all at \$3.57 1/2.

Nichols sold same 4



Roe & Holmes sold Robinson 17 mixed av 81 at \$3.40.  
Lowrey sold Fitzpatrick 32 lambs av 74 at \$5.25, 21 fat butchers av 90 at \$4 and 6 culls av 116 at \$3.  
Judson sold Mich Beef Co 164 lambs av 79 at \$5.25 and 46 mixed av 84 at \$3.75.  
Spicer & M sold same 10 lambs av 45 at \$4.75 and 5 do to Bussell av 83 at \$5.40.  
Nixon sold Mich Beef Co 138 lambs av 71 at \$5.40 and 25 fat butchers av 93 at \$4.15.  
Roe & Holmes sold Robinson 30 lambs av 58 at \$5 and 2 av 140 at \$3.50.  
Lovewell sold Fitzpatrick 14 common butchers av 77 at \$3.

## HOGS.

Receipts Friday, 3,088, as compared with 4,392 one week ago. Market active; all sold early, at prices averaging 2½¢ higher than above quotations, bulk at \$3.60.  
York & R sold Hammond, S & Co 104 av 196 at \$3.57½.  
Hauser sold same 116 av 221 and 37 av 237 at \$3.60.  
Parsons & H sold same 95 av 212 at \$3.60.  
Spicer & M sold same 127 av 213, 45 av 177, 45 av 238 and 57 av 219 at \$3.60.  
Roberts & Spencer sold same 53 av 202 at \$3.60.  
La Duke sold same 91 av 234 at \$3.60.  
Luckie sold same 106 av 210 at \$3.60.  
Fox & Bishop sold same 152 av 174 and 119 av 211 at \$3.60.  
Brown & Y sold same 46 av 207 at \$3.60.  
Roe & Holmes sold same 120 av 173, 29 av 209, 36 av 261, 75 av 209, 35 av 261 and 39 av 210 all at \$3.60.  
Spicer & M sold same 84 av 201 at \$3.60.  
Eddy sold same 130 at 202 and 13 av 235 at \$3.60.  
Descher sold same 59 av 210 at \$3.60.  
Leidel sold Sullivan 104 av 192 and 23 av 200 at \$3.57½.  
Stevenson sold same 97 av 162 at \$3.57½.  
Lowrey sold same 61 av 186 at \$3.60.  
Spicer & M sold same 44 av 149 at \$3.55.  
Lovewell sold same 34 av 182 at \$3.55.  
Lamoreaux & L sold Parker, Webb & Con 44 av 228 at \$3.60.  
Leach sold same 102 av 190 at \$3.57½.  
McHugh sold same 63 av 214 at \$3.57½.  
Sutton sold same 61 av 212 and 32 av 263 at \$3.57½.  
Younger & M sold same 130 av 220 at \$3.60.  
McCloughy sold same 65 av 195 at \$3.60.  
Erwin sold same 50 pigs av 99 at \$3.55 and 27 av 171 at \$3.60.  
Cassey sold same 74 av 205 at \$3.60.  
Roe & Holmes sold same 23 av 190 at \$3.60.  
Erwin sold same 46 av 162 at \$3.60.

## OUR BUFFALO LETTER.

East Buffalo, January 13, 1898.

Cattle.—Receipts of cattle on Monday last were 5,526, as compared with 4,556 the same day the previous week, and shipments were 4,854, as compared with 2,882 for the same day the previous week. The receipts showed an increase over the previous week. There was a fair demand for fat butchers and desirable grades of handy weight steers, while heavy steers were in only fair demand, but held about steady. Common to plain steers and common to fair cows and heifers were dull and fully 10¢ per hundred lower; good oxen and bulls were steady to firm; stockers and feeders were in good demand if desirable, but common stuff was dull. Since Monday receipts have been light and values held about steady for all classes of desirable stock but fancy export steers, which are lower. Common and coarse stock dull and slow. Quotations at the close on Wednesday were as follows: Export and Shipping Steers.—Prime to extra choice finished steers, 1,400 to 1,475 lbs, \$4.90@5; prime to choice steers, 1,200 to 1,400 lbs, \$4.70@4.85; good to choice fat steers, 1,200 to 1,400 lbs, \$4.50@4.65; good to choice fat smooth steers, 1,100 to 1,200 lbs, \$4.45@4.50; green coarse and rough fat steers, 1,000 to 1,350 lbs, \$3.75@4.30. Butchers' Native Cattle.—Fat smooth dry fed steers, 1,050 to 1,150 lbs, \$4.40@4.60; fat smooth dry fed light steers, 900 to 1,000 lbs, \$4.25@4.35; green steers, thin to half fattened, 1,000 to 1,400 lbs, \$3.65@4.25; fair to good steers, 900 to 1,000 lbs, \$3.75@4.25; choice smooth fat heifers, \$4.10@4.25; fair to good fat heifers, \$3.50@4; light thin fat heifers, \$3.25@3.40; fair to good mixed butchers' stock, \$3.60@4; good smooth well fattened butcher cows, \$3.60@3.90; fair to good butcher cows, \$3.35@3.50; common old shelly cows, \$2@2.75. Native Stockers, Feeders, Bulls and Oxen.—Feeding steers, good style weight and extra quality, \$3.55@4.10; feeding steers, common to only fair quality, \$3.35@3.75; good quality yearling stock steers, \$3.65@3.90; stock heifers, common to choice, \$2.65@3.10; stock steers, cut grades and throwouts, \$2.50@3; export weight bulls, fat and smooth, \$3.75@4; good fat smooth butchers bulls, \$3.35@3.60; fair to good sausage bulls, \$2.75@3.25; thin, old and common bulls, \$2.50@2.70; stock bulls, \$2.50@3; fat smooth young oxen, to good loads fit for export, \$4@4.40; fair to fairly good partly fattened young oxen, \$3.25@3.90; old common and poor oxen, \$2.25@3. Milkers and Springers.—Milkers, strictly fancy, \$4@5; milkers, good to choice, \$3@4; milkers, fair to good, \$2@3; milkers, poor to fair, \$2@2.5; springers, strictly fancy, \$4@4.50; springers, fair to good quality, \$3.50@4; common milkers and springers, \$1.40@3. Veal Calves.—Choice to extra, \$6.25@6.50; good to choice, \$5.75@6; calves, common, light, thin to fair, \$4.25@5.50; heavy fed and butter-milk calves as to quality, \$4@4.50; grass calves, \$3.25@3.75.

Thursday the market ruled steady and firm with light supplies.  
Sheep and Lambs.—Receipts, Monday, were 17,500, as compared with 17,400 the previous Monday; shipments were 13,000, as compared with 12,600 same day the previous week. The market opened strong for handy yearlings, steady for good handy sheep, but very dull, and all of 10¢ per hundred lower for lambs. Heavy sheep and lambs were dull and neglected. The top price on lambs was \$5.85, on yearlings \$5.25, and on sheep \$4.85 per hundred. At the close a good many lambs were unsold, but the sheep and yearlings were about all taken. Since Monday receipts have been light, both of sheep and lambs. Values have held steady for top lambs and sheep and yearlings of the handy order, while heavy sheep and lambs continue very dull. There is little or no demand for export. Quotations at the close on Wednesday were as follows:

Native Lambs.—Choice to fancy native lambs, 75 to 80 lbs average, \$5.75@5.80; fair to good native lambs, \$5.40@5.65; heavy lambs averaging from 105 down to 55 lbs, \$5.25@5.65; good culls and common spring lambs, \$5@5.25; common to fair cull lambs, \$4.25@4.75; good to choice feeding lambs, \$5.25@5.60. Yearlings.—Good to choice native handy yearlings, \$5@5.15; common to fairly good yearlings, \$4.75@4.90. Native Sheep.—Prime to fancy wethers, \$4.60@4.85; good to fancy handy sheep, \$4.30@4.60; common to fair, \$3.85@4.15; culls and common, \$3@3.75; heavy export western fed sheep and wethers, \$4@4.25.

Thursday lambs ruled firm, with tops at \$5.80@5.90; others, \$4.50@4.75; sheep firm at Wednesday's prices.

Hogs.—Receipts of hogs on Monday last were 39,710, as compared with 26,700 for the same day the previous week; and shipments were 19,570, as compared with 15,200 for the same day the previous week. Receipts were heavy, and the quality generally good. The market opened slow but ruled more active later at 2½¢ decline from the prices ruling at the close of the week. Monday of last week prices ranged from \$3.75 to \$3.85, this week the range was \$3.70@3.75. The market closed about steady, with some 30 cars of late receipts unsold. Since Monday the market has held about steady for desirable weights, but very light hogs and pigs are dull and lower. Quotations at the close on Wednesday were as follows: Good to choice light medium grades, 165 to 190 lbs, \$3.70@3.72½; choice and selected yorkers, 140 to 160 lbs, \$3.70; mixed packing grades, 180 to 200 lbs, \$3.70; fair to best medium weight, 210 to 260 lbs, \$3.70@3.72½; good to prime heavy hogs of 270 to 300 lbs, \$3.70@3.72½; roughs, common to good, \$3.10@3.25; stags, common to good, \$2.60@3; pigs, light, 105 to 120 lbs, good to prime corn fed lots, \$3.55@3.60; pigs, thin to fair, light weights, 75 to 100 lbs, \$3.40@3.50; pigs, skips and common light and undesirable lots, \$3.15@3.35.

Thursday the market ruled stronger, but sales were generally made at Wednesday's prices.

## CHICAGO.

Union Stock Yards, January 13, 1898.

Cattle.—Receipts for last week were 47,448 head, as compared with 42,561 the previous week and 49,981 for the corresponding week in 1897. The week opened with large receipts, some 5,000 more than the previous Monday, and the bulk of unfinished and half fat cattle. The result was a drop of 25 cents per hundred on this class of cattle. On the other hand, good to first-class fat steers were scarce and sold fully as good as on any day last week; exporters also ruled steady; one exporter took 10 loads at \$4.90@5.15, and top steers made \$5.25@5.40. The great decline was on unfinished steers that last week sold around \$4.25@4.75. There was more than the ordinary run of mixed and butchers' stock, hence some lots held lower than at the close of last week. The range on steer cattle was \$3.50@4.40; cows and heifers, \$2.25@4; stockers, \$3@3.65; Up to and including Wednesday of this week receipts have been 34,754, as compared with 34,426 for the same days last week. Wednesday the market ruled stronger, at an advance on some grades, with the quality of the offerings not so good. Fed Texans sold at \$3.90@4.25 for steers and \$2.75@3.25 for bulls, cows, etc. Native butchers' stock sold at \$2.75@3.25 for medium cows, \$3.50@3.75 for the best; canners, \$2@2.60; bulls, \$2.50@3.50; veal calves, \$6@6.50 for tops; stockers higher than last week; range of prices, \$4@4.50; culled sorts, \$3@3.75. The top price for steers was \$5.35.

Receipts Thursday estimated at 9,000; best grades were strong and a shade higher; others steady to firm.

Sheep and Lambs.—Receipts last week were 67,723, as compared with 75,206 for the previous week, and 63,522 for the corresponding week in 1897. Monday trade started slow, buyers holding off owing to largely increased receipts. The result was a drop of 10¢ from Friday's prices on both sheep and lambs, after which business became very active, and nearly the whole 30,000 offered were taken. Ewes sold for mutton purposes at \$3.75@3.90; mixed ewes and wethers, \$4@4.30; yearlings, \$4.50@4.65; common lambs, \$4.50@5.15; fair to good, \$5.25@5.50; tops, \$5.60@5.75. Up to and including Wednesday of this week receipts were 50,134, as compared with 50,786 for the same days last week. On Wednesday trading was active and prices strong, but the drop of 10¢ on Monday has not been recovered, although lambs were stronger. Ewes sold at \$3.55@3.90; wethers, \$4.20@4.35; mixed muttons, \$4@4.15; prime native lambs, \$5.65@5.70; other kinds, \$4.90@5.50. There is considerable movement in feeding lambs, that sell all the way from \$4.50 to \$5.15.

Thursday's receipts were 12,000; market firm.

Hogs.—Receipts last week were 262,480, as compared with 141,298 the previous week, and 152,181 for the corresponding date in 1897. There was an active market in the face of 15,000 increase in the receipts over those of the previous Monday. There was a slight advance on all grades as compared with the close of the week, and a good deal selling at an advance of 5¢. Rough and common old sows and throwouts, \$3.40@3.50; prime packers and good mixed, \$3.55@3.60; prime mediums, butcher weights, and shippers, \$3.60@3.75, a few at \$3.70. The regulation sort, including light and butcher weights, all good, to weigh around 130@255 lbs, and to average right around 200 lbs, \$3.60@3.55; a few straight light weights of 140@150 lbs, \$3.50@3.60; light pigs under 100 lbs average, \$3.35@3.40. Up to and including Wednesday of this week receipts have been 104,914, as compared with 108,155 for the same days last week. The market on Wednesday opened active, at an advance of 5¢; later it became inactive and the advance was lost. Rough old sows, etc., sold at \$3.40@3.50; prime packers and good mixed, \$3.55@3.60; prime mediums, butcher weights, and shippers, \$3.60@3.67½, a few at \$3.70; prime light, \$3.50@3.60; pigs, \$3.40@3.50.

Receipts Thursday estimated at 27,000. Market fairly active and 5@10¢ higher; mixed, \$3.50@3.75; heavy, \$3.45@3.75; rough, \$3.45@3.50.

## State Crop Report for January.

The ground in the principal wheat growing sections of Michigan was bare of snow until about the 17th of December, and lightly covered from this date to the end of the month. The prevailing opinion among correspondents is that wheat was injured very little, if at all, during December.

In answer to the question, "Has wheat during December suffered injury from any cause?" 47 correspondents in the State answer "yes," and 625 "no," and in answer to the question, "Has the ground been well covered with snow during December?" 87 correspondents in the southern counties answer "yes," and 284 "no;" in the northern counties 60 answer "yes," and 23 "no."

The total number of bushels of wheat reported marketed in December is 1,371,733, and in the five months, August-December, 9,034,054, which is 3,344,811 bushels more than reported marketed in the same months last year.

The average condition of live stock in the State is reported as follows, comparison being with stock in good, healthy, and thrifty condition: Horses, 96 per cent; cattle, 96 per cent; sheep, 98 per cent, and swine, 97 per cent.

The average prices January 1 of some of the principal farm products in the markets where farmers usually market such products, were as follows:

The average price of wheat was 86 cents per bushel; of corn 23 cents, and of oats 22 cents, and the average price of hay was \$6.34 per ton.

The average price of fat cattle was \$3.58 per cwt., of fat hogs, \$3.16 per cwt., and of dressed pork, \$4.12 per cwt.

The average price of each class of horses was as follows: Under one year, \$18.94; between one and two years old, \$28.83; between two and three years old, \$41.83; three years old and over, \$59.76.

Milch cows were worth \$32.25 per head. Cattle other than milch cows, under one year old were worth, per head, \$9.97; between one and two years old, \$17.69; between two and three years, \$26.17, and three years old and over, \$32.90.

The average price of sheep under one year old was \$2.94, and one year old and over, \$3.68; and hogs not fattened were worth \$2.50 per cwt.

The prices here given are for the State. For each class of horses, and for sheep one year old and over they are higher, for sheep under one year old the same, and for milch cows and each class of cattle other than milch cows, lower, than the prices ruling in the southern four tiers of counties.

Compared with January 1, 1897, there is an increase in the prices of all farm products named in this report excepting hay. The average price of hay is \$1.39 less than one year ago.

The average increase in the price of wheat is 2 cents, of corn 5 cents and of oats 4 cents per bushel, and of fat cattle 75 cents, fat hogs 14 cents and of dressed pork 9 cents per cwt.

The average prices of the several classes of horses are reported from \$2.34 to \$6.45 higher, milch cows, \$4.53 higher, and the several classes of cattle other than milch cows from \$2.26 to \$5.17 higher, than one year ago. Sheep under one year old have increased 85 cents, and one year old and over \$1.09.

The report of Special Agent Avery to the Secretary of the Treasury on the production of tin and terne plates in the United States during the fiscal year ended June 30, 1897, shows that the total production was 446,982,063 pounds. This is an increase in the production of a little less than 140,000,000 pounds, or over 45 per cent as compared with 1896.

The supervisors of Cass county have decided to build a new court house to replace the old frame building, built in 1840, which will then be torn down. With the removal of this building one of the most historic buildings in the United States will be obliterated. In this building, in 1848 was held the trial of seven Kentucky raiders who made a raid on Calvin township to capture some fugitive slaves. They were arrested, and the trial which followed attracted national attention, and was the direct cause of the passage of the fugitive slave law, which was undoubtedly the cause of the civil war.

Secretary of State Sherman has issued a proclamation expressing his gratification at the noble response of American citizens to the appeal for aid for the sufferers in Cuba, and has appointed a central Cuban relief committee, with headquarters in New York City, whose duty it shall be not only to receive and forward to the United States consul-general at Havana such money and necessary supplies as may be contributed, but also to ask and receive contributions.

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## Horticultural.

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### TO HOLD THE PLANTS.

If we keep in mind our plant pets, we shall find plenty of cracked or partly broken pieces of crockery that they will take to, and flourish in. Bowls come very prettily painted, and used on the table frequently get cracked or show a small hole. Have a shelf where they can be stored and when your bulbs come put the hyacinths or narcissus in them, first placing a bit of broken crock, or coal in the bottom. They grow all the better for the crack, or small hole, and when the plants are in bloom, make very pretty ornaments for the center of the table. Of course they have beautiful vases for plants on sale, but with ingenuity, much can be done at home, and more comfort taken, if you plan them. A woman had a round vegetable dish, too battered for use. She always saved the silvered papers the yeast cakes came in, and these she carefully pasted around her dish, fitting in all the curves. Then she could place the pot of scarlet zinnias inside the dish, choosing these plants instead of geraniums, for these will hold their leaves even if placed near a lighted lamp, and the whole effect was very pretty. Something odd on the plant shelf catches the eye, and at least provokes a smile. A woman took a worn-out teapot that would still hold water, smeared the outside with grass seed, and lo! and behold! it sprouted. "It gives me something green to look at," she said. I have seen a kitchen window really pretty with common vegetables growing in the odds and ends gathered from the pantry. Curled parsley doesn't mind a bit what it is placed in, provided it has sun and plenty of water. Even a common onion will be very pleasing on a snowy day, with its long leaves, and carrots and sweet potatoes have very graceful foliage. But why not use flower pots made of paper? You can get them small size for twenty-five cents a dozen. I used them for the first time last winter and the plants took to them and were very thrifty, probably because the sides held in the moisture, and they did not gather the disagreeable mold we see on the common crocks.

ANNA LYMAN.

### FORESTS AND RAINFALL.

After years of discussion through the press and in conventions of horticulturists and scientists, in which the general trend of opinion, especially on the part of those who claimed for themselves a certain position in the world of science, favored the theory that the rainfall of a country was largely influenced by its forest area, it is somewhat surprising to read a paper submitted by H. A. Hazen, of the United States Weather Bureau, at the last meeting of the American Forestry Association, held at Nashville, Tenn., in which he showed very clearly the absurdity of such a theory. We give some extracts from the printed report of what Mr. Hazen said, which should go far to relieve the minds of many Michigan scientists, who have been predicting the day when the Peninsular State would become an arid waste through the reckless havoc made by the axes of the lumberman and farmer:

Can it be possible that the cutting away of forests affects the amount of precipitation in any locality? To many, no doubt, this question will seem easy of answer, but we find the results of study by no means reassuring, and recent investigations have led to almost diametrically opposite conclusions, depending somewhat, at least, upon the feeling of the writer. When we reflect that our rain storms are of very wide extent, oftentimes over 1,000 miles in diameter, and may take their origin and bring their moisture from distances of a thousand miles or more, the thought that man may change their action or modify it in any manner, by his puny efforts, seems ridiculous in the extreme.

It was been well established that forests have a most important bearing upon the conservation of rainfall; that the forest floor permits a seepage of water to the source of springs, and thus maintains their steady flow; that they hold back the precipitation that falls, especially in the form of snow, thus preventing or ameliorating dangerous freshets. There is not the slightest doubt of their great importance in the welfare of man, but all these facts do not affect the question of their influence upon precipitation.

The following paper is prepared from the standpoint of a meteorologist, and is an attempt to present facts. Formerly the historical argument was a favorite one. I quote one of these: "It is a familiar fact that there are many regions in Asia and Southern Europe, once exceedingly fertile and densely populated, that are now utterly sterile and desolate. The country bordering on the Euphrates and portions of Turkey, Greece, Egypt, Italy and Spain, are now incapable of cultivation, from the lack of rain, due to deforestation. The most fertile of all the provinces in Bucharra was that of Soga," said Malte Brun in 1826: "For eight days we may travel and not be out of one delicious garden." In 1876 another writer says of this same region: "Within thirty years, this was one of the most fertile spots of Central Asia, a country which, when well wooded and watered, was a terrestrial paradise. But within the last twenty-five years a mania of clearing has seized upon the people, and all of the great forests have been cut away and the little that remained was ravaged by fire during a civil war. The consequences followed quickly, and this country has been transformed into a kind of arid desert. The water courses are dried up and the irrigating canals are empty." It has also been said that in the older settled portions of New England and the Middle States there are arid hills and worn-out fields, due to the falling off of precipitation from the cutting away of the forest growth. Such quotations and statements might be made to fill a large volume. Without more precise data as to rainfall it would be hazardous to conclude that we have here a case of cause and effect. It is certain that the fertility of these regions in ancient times was due to stupendous irrigation plants, and when these were neglected through wars and other untoward circumstances, the fertility necessarily ceased. It is certain that there are ruins of enormous irrigating ditches and canals in Babylonia, where history indicates there was once a teeming population and great fertility, but where now only a sandy desert greets the eye.

Some have said that where our densest forests are found there we have the greatest precipitation. There is no way whereby we can see that such forests would have started unless favored by rainfall, so that the presence of the forest rather indicates the earlier occurrence of practically the same rainfall as at present. Meteorologists are agreed that there has been practically no change in the climate of the world since the earliest mention of such climates. Plants found in mummy cases in Egypt that were plucked thousands of years ago show the same size as those now found in that land. The "early and the latter rain" are experienced in Palestine to-day just as they were 4,000 years ago. Jordan "overflows all its banks" to-day in February precisely as it did in Joshua's day. When we come down to recent times and to the records of rainfall measured in New England for more than 100 years, or at least before and since the forests were cut, we find a constancy in the rainfall which shows its entire independence of man's efforts. Right here it should be noted that totally barren lands of any extent—in New England, for example—are to be found only in imagination. Even where the forest has been cut away mercilessly, there springs up a growth of sprouts which covers the ground and answers almost the same purpose in causing rainfall (if there is any effect of that kind) as the forest. Even where land is entirely cleared of a forest we have the green pasture and still heavier crops, which leave the ground anything but a sandy waste.

But the strongest argument adduced in the past to show the influence of forest on rainfall has existed in a comparison between rain gauge measure in the forest and the open field. Such records have been made for more than thirty years in France and Germany, and surely we must have here, if anywhere, a sufficient proof of a forest influence.

One of the best of all researches in this line has been conducted at Nancy, in France. Within a distance of five or six miles there have been four stations established. At Nancy, in the open, and at Bellefontaine, in the forest, and 500 feet higher vertically at Amance (open), and Cinq-Tranchées (forest). The latter stations are in a more hilly region, and cannot be compared together as can the former. At the lower stations we have comparative observations for twenty years. I

have summed these in three groups, containing eight, eight and nine years in each group. First group, Nancy, has 31.16 inches, while Bellefontaine (forest), had 32.46 inches. Second group, 33.39 and 34.07. Third group, 30.05 and 29.28. We see that while the first eight years showed a very slight excess in the forest rainfall over that in the open field, in the last nine years (including 1894 last published), the open station showed a little more rain than the forest station. These observations were made with particular care for the purpose of exactly determining the influence, and may be relied on if the environments of the gauges were comparable.

### KEEPING CIDER.

There are many methods for keeping cider which are more or less successful when put in practical operation—generally less, however. The use of salicylic acid has been recommended very highly, and so have other ingredients, even tobacco having been tested for the purpose in conjunction with other articles. But we may as well conclude that the use of such articles must be given up by the cider-maker if he wants his product popular because free from objectionable compounds, which are frequently not only unpalatable but very hurtful to the user. A good plan, and one quite generally used, is to heat the cider over a slow fire to 150 degrees, and hold it at that temperature for 20 minutes to kill the germs which start fermentation. It is then put into bottles, jugs, or clean kegs, while hot, and corked tight and the corks wired down. Be careful not to let the cider boil or it will be greatly injured in flavor.

As a compound to mix with the cider we know of nothing better than the following, which imparts no objectionable flavor to the cider, and is not hurtful to the user: Strain your cider into the barrel and allow it to stand until fermentation begins and then draw it off, rinse the barrel and strain the cider back again. Now take three-fourths of an ounce each of oil of sassafras and oil of wintergreen, put it in a pint of alcohol and shake thoroughly and stir it well through the cider. It is said the only trouble in keeping this is that it is too good to keep and is soon consumed. Whatever method is employed, the straining or filtering plays an important part.

### HORTICULTURAL NOTES.

The Massachusetts Experiment Station has made careful experiments in thinning fruits, keeping accounts of cost and of gain over trees not thinned, which showed an average of over \$1 profit per tree for thinning apples, and 61 cents per tree for thinning plums.

Gov. Adams and Secretary Shute, of the State Board of Horticulture, are about to make a demand upon Secretary of Agriculture Wilson that a certain bulletin recently sent out by the department of pomology be withdrawn. The officials mentioned declare that the bulletin not only libels Colorado, but that it contains absurdities that the department should be ashamed of. Colorado is credited in the bulletin with a small range of capabilities in fruit growing. We think a close investigation of several other bulletins will show other absurdities.

A Japanese farmer weeds his wheat fields just as a Connecticut farmer weeds his onion bed, and cultivates his potatoes and barley with as much care as a Long Island farmer bestows upon his asparagus or mushrooms or his flowers.—Vicks. Yes, and such facts point out unerringly the low condition of the cultivators of the soil, when they can afford to spend so much time in caring for their crops. It looks as if the crops were of more importance than the man, whose incessant labor must be as illy requited as the fellahs of Egypt.

California orange growers recently had some experience with the predictions of the Weather Bureau which will cause them to pay more respect to (Continued on page 57).

When writing to advertisers please mention Michigan Farmer.



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FOR 1898

from carefully selected cabbage, onion, carrot, beet, etc., and yet at as low prices as seed raised from trash. Try the *Surprise Pea*, warranted to be the very earliest of all the wrinkled sorts. Try the *Enormous potato* (604 bus. per measured acre) the best of all the early beets, the new cabbage, cucumber, lettuce, etc. To have the best garden you will need our catalogue, it contains the best varieties of vegetable seed, many of them of our own raising. The Flower Seed page is of particular interest to wife and daughter. It is Free.

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Counts for more in the selection of fruit trees than almost any other place. Why? Because fruit trees are bought on faith. We have the standard kind of all the leading varieties: Fruit Trees, Berry Plants, Evergreens, etc., etc. Strong, healthy trees free from Black Knot, Yellow Blight, Scale, etc., etc. Do not place your spring order until you get our catalogue and prices. Sent free; write to-day.

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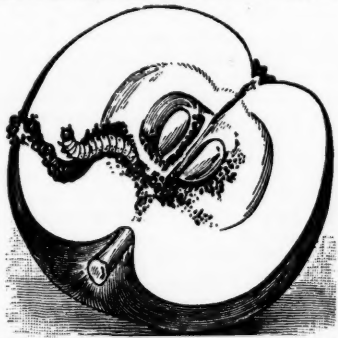


its suggestions in the future. Extreme cold was predicted in Los Angeles, Riverside and Bernardino Counties, and the mercury fell to ten degrees below freezing—the lowest temperature registered in that part of the country for twenty-five years. With ripe and ripening oranges on the trees this would have meant a complete loss of the fruit. Careful estimates show the quantity of fruit ready for marketing thus put in jeopardy to have been ten thousand carloads, or 2,000,000 boxes, amounting in value, at \$3 a box, to \$6,000,000. About one-fifth of the crop is supposed to have been gathered in at the first warning of the Bureau. The balance was all lost.

There are more than sentimental reasons why the maple tree should be held in regard by Canadians. As a source of commercial profit the value of this tree is not sufficiently appreciated. According to the census of 1891, the annual production of maple sugar in Ontario amounts to 5,665,796 pounds, which means, at average market price, almost \$500,000. This industry is capable of greater developments, and the merchants of the country should be interested in encouraging farmers to take it up more extensively. The sugar bush at the Michigan Agricultural College yields an annual return of 12 per cent, valuing the woodland at \$50 an acre. A Simcoe county farmer estimates that the yield of ten acres of maple trees, when the sap is converted into syrup and sugar, gives a net return of about \$10 per acre. In addition, there is to be considered the annual growth of wood suitable for fuel and farm uses, which would amount to five cords each year. In what industry can the farmer obtain greater returns with the expenditure of an equal amount of labor and capital? The bulk of the maple sugar produced in Canada is consumed here. We have not mentioned the usefulness of the wood of this tree for cabinet-making purposes or for interior decoration. But people in other countries admire it and value it, if we do not. Perhaps we are so far familiar with it that we have ceased to consider its worth in this aspect. Still, this is another of the directions in which maple is of value.—Canadian Monetary Times.

#### Spraying Fruit Trees.

The question of spraying fruit trees to prevent the depredations of insect pests and fungus diseases is no longer an experiment but a necessity.



Our readers will do well to write Wm Stahl, Quincy, Ill., and get his catalogue describing twenty-one styles of Spraying Outfits and full treatise on spraying the different fruit and vegetable crops, which may be had for the asking and contains much valuable information.

#### Suggestions for Sowers of Seed.

Probably a majority of the farmers and gardeners of the country know something about the work of James J. H. Gregory & Son, of Marblehead, Mass., and many of them have been gainers by their discoveries of new varieties of squashes, cabbages, potatoes and peas. The most recent catalogue of the firm contains a lengthy list of improved new varieties in vegetables, small fruits and flowers, and a vast number of practical farm and garden facts, acquired on the experimental farms at Marblehead. As this book will be sent free to any one writing for it, no one need be without its helpful suggestions.

## The Poultry Yard.

For The Michigan Farmer.

### A TALK ON STANDARD-BRED POULTRY.

In reply to my critics, will say that the Langshans in my hands were not hardy, and the poultry buyers did not like them. Now, then, the most popular breeds are surely those which are advertised the most. I went through the advertisements in the December 15th issue of a practical poultry paper, taking the three breeds Friend Aiken says I keep and praise, and the Langshans, and here is what I find: B. P. Rocks 51, White Wyandottes 53, Light Brahmas 13, and Langshans 10 times. I also went through the January number of a reliable poultry monthly and find B. P. Rocks 202, Light Brahmas 102, White Wyandottes 101, Langshans 57 times. I have no desire to jump on

the Langshans. I have bred some good ones, but they are a fancier's fowl. The farmers want the most popular and the best fowls for business, and it seems to me the above will tell its own story. The markets in this country call for a fowl with yellow legs and skin, and it pays to keep that kind.

There are a few writers who are trying hard to make people believe that standard-bred poultry are not as hardy, not as good layers, and not as good meat, as what they call thoroughbreds—fowls bred for utility. In just a few cases this may be true, but nine times out of ten it is rot, pure and simple. Now I will cite a case I saw at the Lansing poultry show December 23. There was a Golden Wyandotte pullet there that won first prize, scoring 94½ points. The judge offered the owner \$12.50 for her, and said she was the best pullet of her kind he ever saw. Now, then, this standard-bred, fancy prize-winner had, up to December 23, laid 33 eggs. And if anyone had money enough to buy her, and cared to cook her for dinner, I will gamble a little that she would make good eating.

Now let me give you a little advice and please do not forget it. In order for one of these birds to win a prize, it must be good in shape; if not of good shape it is cut so hard as to be simply "not in it." If a standard-bred prize-winner is a good layer, and good in shape (and that means a good market fowl), what is the matter with her for the farmer, utility breeder, or anyone else? At the Lansing show there was one of the grandest strings of B. P. Rocks I ever saw. They had size and shape, and the right kind of color, too. Many a farmer did I hear talking like this: "I would just like to get into that lot of Rocks and carry home a few." Well, their thoughts were mine, and for the good of my pocketbook I kept out of that row of coops all I could. It was a good show, the Rocks being way ahead in numbers as they are at almost every show. There was lots of quality all the way through the show. It was a poor place for a man to go with an idea in his head that fancy poultry was off in size or shape. There was a nice display of green bone cutters.

Now, then, Julius Garrett is surely off his base. If he would get on a barrel and shout to the people that those ducks of his were of my strain, that he got his start from me the year before, I surely would not kick. I never had the gall to ask him to do it. I bought a drake of him and he wanted me to tell the people I bought it of him. Why not ask him to tell the people those ducks were bought of me to start on. I was not the breeder at all, only the feeder. They could not be his strain for he got his start from me. To go a little further, they were not my strain, for I bought the eggs in the East. Now, whose strain are they? This word strain is abused roundly; when a breeder works on one line of birds ten years or more, until they all look alike, then he has established a strain. But for a man to breed chickens a few years, buy new male birds every year and call them his strain, is straining the point pretty hard. I say now, and will always stick to it, that when I sell a bird, that bird, and whatever record he gets, belongs to his owner. If the owner sees fit to tell anyone where he got him, that is his own business and all right, but for me to request him to please say he got him of me, is all wrong. See what I. K. Felch says on this point; he never shows and never claims any records won by his customers.

F. M. B.

#### POINTERS ON FEEDING.

I want to tell Michigan Farmer readers who keep chickens of a receipt worth \$1 to them. It is a roup and condition pill. Make the pills the size of the first joint of the little finger. Give one night and morning for two days. Use one part each of mustard, ginger and cayenne pepper. Mix them thoroughly dry, then work in lard until all is well mixed; then stir in flour until stiff and make into pills.

Our sugar beets last year were small, so I have to cut them up fine to save them; it is quite a job and I am looking for a machine that will cut them up fine, quickly and easily. When I find it I will tell all about it. Sugar beets are a grand green feed for fowls, and when grown large they can be fed whole without waste, but when so small that hens can pull them through the slats and all over the hen-house they must be cut fine.

Your special for January 1st makes me think of a blunder a man in these parts made in selling a turkey tom. He sold him for \$2, saying he thought

he would weigh about twelve pounds, and that he had made a dollar on him. The buyer, on reaching home, found he weighed twenty-two pounds, the seller price. Always weigh your birds, never guess at it. If you have any capons, slips, or nice poultry of any kind to sell, sell them right at home if such a thing is possible; get an honest weight, and get your money, and that ends it. I shipped forty-eight slips to New York last winter; they were nicely dressed and packed in boxes, and they shrunk about thirty pounds. I got 9½ cents dressed, when I was offered 9 cents here alive—a clean loss of about \$12.

My fowls care nothing about milk this winter, so I feed it to the hogs; the hens won't eat but very little soft feed either. They seem to prefer to scratch hard feed out of the litter, and I had just as soon they would, for exercise makes eggs. Cracked corn, wheat, millet and oats are thrown in clean dry litter on the floor and it is "scratch, hen, or go hungry."

Have you got 100 hens in a house only large enough for 50, feeding them all the corn they will eat, without any exercise whatever, and getting no eggs? If you have, don't expect any unless you change their conditions. Pick out 50 of the best ones, those with bright red combs, and sell the rest at once. Now fix some place where you can put six inches of dry chaff or

fine straw, and throw all their hard feed in there. Make them work, that is the idea; give them good sharp grit, all the warm water they want, and all the green stuff they will eat, and you will surely get eggs. I will tell you what I am going to feed just as soon as I can get to it; then I will let you know how it works. My morning ration will be a soft feed of cornmeal, bran and middlings, with a small amount of blood meal, pioneer clover meal, with charcoal and salt stirred in. At noon warm water and green stuff. At 4 p. m. hard feed thrown in litter. As soon as I get a green bone cutter I will feed cut bone at noon. I am feeding as per above with exception of clover and blood meal. I bought a grit crusher and tried to crush my own grit out of stone. It was guaranteed to crush forty pounds an hour, but forty pounds a day would make a man very tired. But the worst of it is, my fowls won't eat this grit after it is crushed. I have sent for some of the granite crystal grit advertised in poultry journals and will report. The way my fowls eat granulated bone is a caution; they will leave oyster shell and grit for bone every time. Take my advice and nail up three cups on the side of the hen-house. Fill one with sharp grit, one with granulated bone, and one with oyster shell.

F. M. BRONSON.

# SLEEPLESSNESS

## ESPECIALLY FREQUENT IN HIGH ALTITUDES.

### How it May be Overcome in Any Climate.

From the Chieftain, Pueblo, Col.

While the Rocky Mountain region is justly famed for its salubrious climate, and is becoming more and more the Mecca toward which pilgrims are traveling from all parts of the world that they may fill their weakened lungs with its life-giving air, yet, there are ailments in that climate as in any other, one of the chief of which is sleeplessness. This is due to the rarity of the air, which on some constitutions is too stimulating to the nerves. In some cases patients are compelled to remove for a time to the sea level to escape the high nervous strain. As sleeplessness is not an uncommon accompaniment to certain nervous conditions (in any climate) the story of a woman of Pueblo, Col., may point a moral to others, who have had a similar affliction.

The woman came to Pueblo thirty years ago, when the town was a frontier settlement, and Indians were by no means unusual visitors, bands of Utes often passing through on their way from the mountains down to the plains to hunt buffaloes.

She had been in good health until a few years ago, when at each recurring springtime she became debilitated, weak and languid. Her strength left her; she was listless and lifeless. This, too, in spite of the stimulating effects of the high altitude. The most serious difficulty, however, was sleeplessness, which she could not cure. The long, weary watches of the night told on her health, and she dreaded the approach of night. This lack of sleep weakened her strength and brought on extreme nervousness, until she was a physical wreck.

As she could not well take the long journey necessary to a change of climate,

she sought for some nerve restorative that would build up the nervous system, and thus enable her to get that sleep and rest without which she could not long endure the strain. She at length found this in Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People. She said to the reporter: "By the time I had taken one box of these pills I not only felt stronger, but to my surprise found that I could sleep."

"I have taken four boxes now and can take a long nap during the day and sleep soundly all night."

"The medicine not only takes away that weary, depressed feeling, but creates a buoyancy and exhilaration that does not pass away when one stops taking the pills."

"I am forty-nine years old and about thirty years ago I began to be troubled with gatherings in my head. The trouble continued until I was unable to hear a sound through my right ear and my left ear was badly affected. I had no idea that the pills would benefit my ears, but they evidently did, as my hearing is very much improved."

"I consider Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People a wonderful medicine." The address of the woman is: Mrs. H. L. Graham, 214 E. 4th St., Pueblo, Col. State of Colorado, County of Pueblo, ss. Subscribed and sworn to before me this 6th day of July, 1897.

GEORGE W. GILL,  
Notary Public.

All the elements necessary to give new life and richness to the blood and restore shattered nerves are contained in Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People. They are sold in boxes (never in loose form, by the dozen or hundred) at 50 cents a box, or six boxes for \$2.50, and may be had of all druggists or directly by mail from Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Schenectady, N. Y.

BIG beautiful BAKED P. ROCKS, exclusively. High scoring, thoroughbred stock. Pitkin and Conger strains. Cockerels, \$2 to \$2.50. Eggs \$1 per 16.  
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Our 1898 Mammoth Poultry Guide No. 2 will be mailed FREE. Something entirely new, tells all about poultry, how to be a winner, how to MAKE BIG MONEY. Contains beautiful lithographs of fowls in their natural colors. Send stamp for postage.  
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## Grange Department.

Our Motto:—"The farmer is of more consequence than the farm, and should be first improved."

Address all correspondence for this department to

KENYON L. BUTTERFIELD,  
AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE, - - MICH.

News from Michigan Granges is especially solicited.

### GRANGE NEWS.

PLEASANTON GRANGE, NO. 557, had a Christmas dinner when they elected officers.

Manistee Co. IVY M. SHELDON, Cor.  
NEWARK GRANGE

on New Year's day conferred second degree on three members, and elected as members two more.

R. J. K.  
ONSTED GRANGE, NO. 279, installed officers New Year's day and listened to reports of last year's officers. Also partook of an oyster supper.

Lenawee Co. F. JENNIE NEWTON, Cor.

UNION GRANGE  
installed officers Jan. 4. D. D. Buell is master, and Byron Bray overseer. Bro. Locke gave an interesting report of State Grange.

Branch Co. COR.

ARCADA GRANGE, No. 500, installed one candidate December 22. Had a Christmas tree at the hall, the meeting being well attended.

Gratiot Co. A. L. KNAPP, Cor.

A NEW GRANGE.  
Brother E. O. Ladd, of Traverse City, has organized a Grange at Fife Lake with 30 charter members already.

ARCADA GRANGE, NO. 500, has as Master, T. L. Knapp; Overseer, D. L. Sharrar; Lecturer, Mary Sharrar; Secretary, Frank Keefer. After installation, Bro. and Sister Muscott reported from State Grange.

Gratiot Co. A. L. KNAPP, Cor.

BERLIN CENTER GRANGE, No. 372, Recently adopted the following: "Resolved that no man is qualified for Circuit Judge who may be influenced from sentencing a criminal by the social standing of the latter's friends."

Ionia Co. WADE F. ALLEN, Cor.

HOPE GRANGE, NO. 678, meets every two weeks. At last meeting we had a report of State Grange by Bro. Morrison. Have just initiated a new member. Will have a debate at next meeting on "Which is the more important, money or education?"

Huron Co. MRS. RAMSAY, Cor.

WHITNEY GRANGE, NO. 513.

Our Worthy Master, C. M. Pierce, attended State Grange, and spoke very highly of the meeting; says that he is no longer ashamed to be known as a farmer. We also had report at our last meeting from delegate to State Grange.

Tuscola Co. NELLIE WILLETT, Cor.

CLAYTON GRANGE, NO. 694, elected as master, Geo. W. Bloss; overseer, J. C. Fay; lecturer, Mrs. Zellie Herrick; secretary, A. B. Knight. Meet on the first and third Saturday nights of each month. We have a small store in the first story of our hall.

Genesee Co. COR.

LISBON GRANGE  
met New Year's to install officers; had an oyster dinner and public installation. Had several visitors, who helped us on the program with music and recitations. Our Master is L. Turner; Lecturer, Lydia Holmes; Secretary, Mary Waller.

Kent Co. MEMBER.

ALPINE GRANGE  
installed officers New Year's evening. Brother and Sister Saunders, delegates to State Grange, made an interesting report of that meeting. Installation was public, followed by an oyster supper, and there was a large attendance. Two new names received for membership.

Kent Co. MRS. W. E. CHAMBERS.

ELBRIDGE CENTER GRANGE, No. 711, is booming, with a membership of nearly 100 in good standing. We elected officers as follows: Master, C. Teak; overseer, R. E. Southwick; lecturer, Miss Bell Sayles; secretary, Ray Thompson.

Seven applications to ballot on next meeting.

Oceana Co. MILES BROWN, Cor.

POTTAWATAMIE GRANGE, No. 722, Elected as officers: Master, Brother Shirner; overseer, Ed. Curtis; lecturer, T. N. Perry; secretary, Miss Mable Pullen.

The contest is causing quite a struggle and is waning us up.

Two candidates were balloted for.

Berrien Co. MRS. W. G. EMERY, Cor.

EASTPORT GRANGE  
elected as master, Thos. King; overseer, E. Church; lecturer, W. J. Olmsted; secretary, Walter King. At our

last meeting we voted to hold Grange on the last Thursday evening of each month during the winter.

Antrim Co. W. J. OLMSTED, Cor.

BANGOR GRANGE, NO. 60, began the new year with an installation and splendid feast. Officers are: Master, J. H. Shuver; lecturer, Mrs. C. B. Charles; secretary, Miss Kate Shuber. After installation the children rendered a short program.

Van Buren Co. I. M. WILCOX, Cor.

BETHANY GRANGE, No. 508, Elected as officers: Master, S. P. Richardson; overseer, John C. Baney; lecturer, Sister L. Dailey; secretary, Wm. J. Baney. Installation third Saturday night in January; open meeting, and the public cordially invited.

Midland Co. H. OSCAR KELLEY, Cor.

NEWBERRY CENTER GRANGE  
meets on the first and third Saturday afternoon of each month. We elected as master C. W. Poe; lecturer, Wm. Harwood; secretary, Ellen D. Rumsey. About 60 Patrons gathered at the hall New Year's day for a feast.

COR.

ROCKFORD GRANGE, No. 110, is falling into line; three applications for membership at last meeting. Several members re-instated. We elected as Master, Mrs. P. C. Gilles; overseer, C. M. Mason; secretary, Mrs. Mary Roberts; lecturer, D. Norton. We realized nearly \$8 at our box social.

Kent Co. E. R. KEECH, Cor.

NORTH BRANCH GRANGE, NO. 607, January 1 appointed an agent to do business with the Lamb Wire Fence Co. Installation of officers will take place at the home of Brother and Sister Barnes, when we will have a farmers' supper. We are having an interesting contest, which helps to furnish programs.

Lapeer Co. H. S. BRADSHAW, Cor.

ALBA GRANGE, No. 716.  
We are just beginning our third year. Officers for next year: Master, G. L. Ostrom; overseer, P. Y. Baldwin; lecturer, Sister J. Y. Ostrom; secretary, J. H. Zeigler. We number about 45; five applications came at last meeting. Have arranged for a literary contest, continuing three months.

Antrim Co. REPORTER.

JOHNSTOWN GRANGE, NO. 127, elected as master, H. M. Bristol; overseer, G. W. Sheffield; lecturer, Ettie Beach; secretary, F. J. Merrill. We are looking for a great revival of Grange work in Barry county. We all endorse heartily the annual address of Worthy Master Horton at the last State Grange.

Barry Co. COR.

INLAND GRANGE, No. 503.  
On Christmas day we elected officers: Master, A. L. Kimble; overseer, Mrs. Tiney Lewis; lecturer, J. W. Edwards; secretary, Chester Lewis. We shall aim to make the coming year a grand success in Grange work. More interest is manifested than ever before.

Benzie Co. J. W. EDWARDS, Cor.

HUDSON CENTER GRANGE, No. 713.  
Met Dec. 17. Charles E. Sheridan was elected Grange agent for the Lamb fence. A correspondent for The Michigan Farmer was also elected. Two applications were handed in. The following officers were elected: Master, H. C. Van Wie; overseer, Charles E. Sheridan; lecturer, Mrs. Ida Smith; secretary, John Welch.

Lenawee Co. H. C. V.

CADMUS GRANGE  
met New Year's night. The officers reported a prosperous year, with money in the treasury, and no debts. Installed officers, the principal ones being: Master, E. E. Tobias; overseer, James Farmer; lecturer, Lydia Reed; secretary, Porter McLouth. Over 100 Patrons partook of the oyster supper after installation.

Lenawee Co. DECKIE TOBIAS, Cor.

FRUIT RIDGE GRANGE, NO. 276, installed officers January 1. Installation was followed by refreshments. We had a Christmas dinner at our hall, and invited in a few friends. After dinner the curtain on the stage was raised, revealing a beautiful Christmas tree loaded with toys and useful presents for the children. It was a happy time for all of us.

Lenawee Co. J. W. A.

HARBOR SPRINGS GRANGE NO. 730, met, regularly, Jan. 1. A number of invited friends were present to witness the installation of officers, which was conducted by Bro. E. B. Ward, of Charlevoix, overseer of the State Grange, who also gave a good Grange address. Light refreshments were served. Four applications for membership were received.

Emmet Co. J. L. M., Cor.

ELBRIDGE CENTER, NO. 711, at their regular meeting on Jan. 1 installed officers with the assistance of

Bro. Adams, of Shelby Grange, who gave an interesting report of State Grange and also of his visit to the Agricultural College. Sister Adams gave a short account of the kitchen department of the College. Eight new candidates to initiate at next meeting.

Oceana Co. MILES BROWN.

LIMECREEK GRANGE  
New officers: Master, C. R. Bradish; overseer, J. D. Johnson; secretary, J. C. Sawyer, Jr.; lecturer, Margie Gallup. Albert Gould was chosen director in Grange insurance. You asked about our "chip basket." Some member collects a number of short maxims, quotations, witty sayings and reads them. They are both amusing and instructive.

Lenawee Co. HATTIE GALLUP, Cor.

NORTH ADRIAN GRANGE, No. 721, Has been organized nearly a year and is in good working order. We have a new hall, 24x60, nearly completed. New officers are: Master, R. C. Palmer; secretary, A. Vedder. December 22 we had an open meeting, with many outsiders present. We meet on the first and third Friday evenings of each month.

Lenawee Co. MRS. H. R. L., Cor.

WATSON GRANGE, NO. 154, elected as master Mrs. G. A. Miner; overseer, Mrs. Rose Bracelin; lecturer, Mrs. M. E. Burnham; secretary, S. P. Albertson. The sisters will have charge of each end of the Grange wagon, and we brothers expect to take the middle of the road. The next subject for discussion is "What is the most frequent cause for failure among farmers?"

Allegan Co. S. P. ALBERTSON.

OXFORD GRANGE  
held its annual election of officers on Dec. 21 and re-elected most of the old officers. Worthy Master M. L. Frink having been at Lansing in attendance at State Grange and Farmers' Clubs, gave a very glowing account of the standing of the Order in Michigan. He was able to impart his enthusiasm for Grange work to the members of our Grange and the outlook is brighter as a consequence. These State meetings are none too frequent.

Oakland Co. COR.

MADISON GRANGE.  
Bro. and Sister Babcock, of Rollin Grange, assisted at the installation of officers at Madison Grange Jan. 4. Our sisters have taken the stent of doing off a kitchen from the woodhouse, and the M. B. Club of adding an upper story of 14x16 feet, both without expense to the Grange treasury. The lower part is ready for the plasterer, the roof is raised, and the upper part enclosed.

Lenawee Co. E. W. A.

BUNKER HILL GRANGE, NO. 262.  
We meet weekly. Our Master is Bernard Dewey; secretary, Belle Lawrence; lecturer, Wm McCreary. The first meeting of the new year we had current events, presented by all the members. Next a question box; each member drawing out a question, which was then discussed generally. Besides readings and declamations. Our Grange has every appearance of prosperity.

Ingham Co. F. W. HAVENS, Cor.

MONITOR GRANGE  
has elected and installed as Master, B. F. Muscott; Overseer, Geo. Morrison; Lecturer, Mrs. Blanche Hetzman; Secretary, Monroe Howland. We are looking forward to a good year's work. Gratiot Pomona will meet with us February 5. The younger members are planning for a rabbit hunt in the near future to aid us financially in building a hall.

Gratiot Co. COR.

ALPINE GRANGE, No. 348,  
At its last meeting discussed "Is legislation to protect the dairy interests class legislation?" and "What is meant by the complete independence of the nation; is it possible or desirable at the present time?" On the first subject it seemed to be the thought that the farmers are simply alive to their interests; in regard to the latter subject that absolute independence is impossible. We had an oyster supper at installation.

Kent Co. COR.

TRIUMPH GRANGE, No. 518, Elected as Master, Angus McKay; overseer, Albert James; lecturer, N. S. Gwynne; secretary, Miss Myrtle Pixley; besides local reporter and correspondent to The Farmer.

December 21 a class of ten took the fourth degree. On January 5 we will receive further applications for membership, and also discuss the National Grange topic for December.

We have a first-class choir and orchestra. We were re-organized less than a year ago, and now have over 40 members, with frequent applications

for membership. Our prospects are bright.

Oceola Co. JOHN VANCE, Cor.

HELENA GRANGE, NO. 678, elected as Master, J. B. Hartwell; Overseer, G. B. Blissett; Lecturer, Mrs. Celia McFarland; Secretary, Mrs. Etta McCracken. We voted to send for two barrels of oil, and 10 bushels of clover seed. It was suggested at our last meeting that the sisters bring their knitting, or other work, so as to have something to do while the men are talking. (Our correspondent is a sister—does she mean to say that the men do all the talking at Grange meetings? Ed.) We meet every Saturday night at the town hall, but hope to have a hall of our own soon.

Antrim Co. COR.

PORTAGE GRANGE.  
Portage Grange elected as officers: Master, John S. Chubb; overseer, H. S. Rockwell; lecturer, Mrs. A. L. Hall; secretary, Geo. T. Hall; correspondent for The Farmer, Mrs. A. L. Hall. January 8 we will install our officers and have an oyster supper.

Our Grange will start out with renewed energy and hope, with a Grange hall, all necessary fixtures, and a full treasury.

Kalamazoo Co. MRS. A. L. HALL, Cor.

KEENE GRANGE, NO. 270  
has elected as Master, D. C. Hunter; Overseer, D. C. Reynolds; Lecturer, Mrs. Jennie Hunter; Secretary, E. Hancock. We have \$53 in the treasury. We have a record-breaker in our Grange in the person of D. W. Woodman, who is 78 years of age. He was a charter member, was elected chaplain to fill vacancy during the first year of the Grange, and has held the office ever since, a period of about 25 years. He is always found at his post whenever health and weather will permit.

Ionia Co. COR.

RAISIN GRANGE  
was organized in March, 1896, with less than 50 charter members; we now have 107. Meet second and fourth Tuesday evenings of each month. Everything flourishing. Officers for new year: Master, S. S. Munch; overseer, M. N. Graham; lecturer, L. C. Chase; secretary, H. Holdridge. At last meeting third and fourth degrees were conferred on two candidates. Feast was furnished by the gentlemen. The Grange voted to send for a traveling library. We now rent a hall, but expect to have one of our own soon.

Lenawee Co. NELLIE BOWERMAN, Cor.

CHESHIRE BANNER GRANGE, NO. 520, Is in good working order. We have a good hall, well furnished; meet once in two weeks, on Saturday afternoon.

The following are officers: Master, C. V. Nash; overseer, G. W. Lewis; lecturer, Miss Gertie Brewster; secretary, S. S. Heywood.

Brother Jason Woodman was with us on Jan. 1st. He installed the officers, and in the evening gave a public lecture.

We have added eight new members in the past year.

Allegan Co. CHESHIRE.

IRONTON GRANGE, No. 707, Officers are: Master, James F. Mitchell; overseer, S. Lingclip; lecturer, Mrs. A. N. Burdick; secretary A. N. Burdick.

Our Grange will entertain Pomona, January 13.

I have a suggestion: While it is good to speak of the pleasant side of the Grange, would it not be helpful to discuss our difficulties, with suggestions how to overcome them?

We have taken steps to procure a traveling library; we hope it will be a great help to our young people.

HILLSDALE POMONA.

The February meeting will be held on the first Thursday of the month, at South Jefferson Grange hall. Program as follows: Address, B. A. Bowditch, "Transportation;" address, N. E. Dresser, "Postal Savings Banks;" paper, A. L. Davis, "International Arbitration;" talk by Worthy Master J. N. Moore on "Equalization of Taxation," followed by a review of the report of the tax statistician by E. Rockwood. The worthy lecturer of South Jefferson Grange will fill out the program.

Brother and Sister Patrons, please be on hand early, as on these short days we are crowded for time. Let us have a forenoon session if possible.

W. KIRBY, Lecturer.

BATTLE CREEK GRANGE, No. 60, elected as Master, L. E. Smith; lecturer, Elizabeth Ewer; secretary, Frank Minges. The secretary's annual report contained these good suggestions: "That we make a special study of current history; an efficient aid in this line being a copy of 'The Week's Current,' to be used at every meeting. An occasional meeting might well be devoted to the study of parliamentary law. Also let us bear in mind



that the members who do the most work are those who receive the greatest reward. A year in active Grange work is the best investment one can make, considering the small amount of cash required."

Calhoun Co. L. M. ADAMS, Cor.  
CHESHIRE GRANGE, NO. 520,  
initiated 13 new members Jan. 1. After an oyster dinner the officers were installed by Brother Jason Woodman, State Lecturer, assisted by Brother and Sister L. C. Root. Report of the State Grange was given by Brother and Sister Vahue, of Allegan Grange. In the evening, Brother Woodman and Brother Root addressed a large audience on the work of the Grange. We shall hold weekly meetings this coming winter.

Allegan Co. CHESHIRE.  
QUINCY GRANGE, NO. 152.  
Our membership is made up of the most substantial farmers of the community, who take a lively interest in all Grange work. I have been a member of the Grange for 25 years, and I think I can see a decided improvement in the relation which the farmer occupies to other people. The educational features of the Grange are responsible for its growth; to the average young people such training as the Grange gives is invaluable. The social side of farm life is brightened in a way never before realized. I want to see the time come, however, when we shall have a larger representation of farmers in the Legislature and in Congress.

Branch Co. T. H. COOK, Cor.  
BAINBRIDGE GRANGE, No. 80,  
Conferred third and fourth degrees, Dec. 25, on a class of nine, and then held a Christmas dinner. In the evening two new candidates were elected to membership, and two applications filed. Officers for new year: Master, E. N. Martau; overseer, L. A. Stuart; lecturer, C. E. Dana; secretary, Lissa Van Franken. At the evening session of the one-day Farmers' Institute, held here recently, "Good roads" was discussed. The following points were brought out: "Keep agitating the subject and make good roads possible;" "Labor tax is most satisfactory;" "Amend road laws so we can get warrants 10 days earlier;" "Allow farmers, with proper modifications, to work their tax adjacent to their own premises."

Berrien Co. REPORTER.  
PENINSULA GRANGE, NO. 663.  
As our regular meeting came on New Year's day, all brought baskets and the Grangers, with a number of invited guests, enjoyed a New Year's dinner. After this we held an open Grange meeting. For entertainment two select readings were given, music and discussions as follows: "That we should have free rural mail delivery, or else have free boxes at our postoffice. We support the postal system as well as people in towns, and we certainly should have free postoffice boxes if not free delivery."

Discussion No. 2: "That the Constitution of the United States should be read daily in the public schools." It was held that every person in the Union should understand the different clauses of the Constitution.

3. "That every person should keep a diary." This was well discussed.  
Grand Traverse Co. COR.  
CLINTON COUNTY POMONA GRANGE  
met with Grove Grange, No. 528, Dec. 8. The day was fine, roads splendid and the attendance large. After a bountiful dinner Oliver Bixby welcomed Pomona in a cordial manner, to which I. D. Richmond responded with a well written address. A recitation was given by Fred Carpenter. This being the regular business meeting the following officers were elected: Master, Dell Mosher; overseer, I. D. Richmond; lecturer, Mrs. C. L. Pearce; secretary, Henry N. Webb.

Henry N. Webb read an excellent paper, and a vote was taken to ask the county papers to publish it. A committee was appointed to draft resolutions favoring free mail delivery in the rural districts, also resolutions favoring the government establishing postal savings banks. R. M. Winston gave an interesting talk upon the educational features of the Grange. After accepting an invitation to meet with Bengal Grange in January for the installation of officers Grange closed, and all departed for their homes.

MRS. C. L. PEARCE, Lecturer.  
ST. CLAIR POMONA GRANGE  
met with Grove Grange, No. 528, Dec. 22. The five Subordinate Granges in this district were represented, all reporting favorably. One Grange reported 115 members in good standing. Officers of Pomona: Master, A. E. Hicks; overseer, S. O. Coon; lecturer,

G. J. Weyneth; secretary, W. B. Campbell.

Four applications were received for fifth degree. Brother A. W. Camfield made a partial report of the proceedings of State Grange.

The following subjects were thoroughly discussed: "Practical Farming," with interesting talks by Bros. Coon and Weyneth and others; "Is it advisable to adopt the county road system?" led by Bros. Hicks, Hill and Kerr; verdict: That it is not advisable to adopt the system, but that the discussions that it caused would be beneficial to all; "Is free rural mail delivery practical?" Bros. Camfield, Hill, Odett, and others. It was decided that it was practical and desirable, and that all should heartily endorse it.

I. W. HALL, Cor.  
HUDSON CENTER GRANGE  
at its meeting Dec. 31 gave third and fourth degrees to two candidates, balanced favorably on two more, and received one application. The general topic for discussion was "Corn," a paper being read on the evolution of the corn plant and a general talk given on varieties, cultivation, manure, etc. There was also a paper by one of the ladies on "Preparation of sweet corn for the table; canning, drying, etc." Some of the ideas advanced were: "The best variety of corn for southern Michigan is a medium yellow dent." "The cheapest manure for corn is clover." "None of us cultivate our corn enough." "Shallow level culture is best." "Have had good results from husker and shredder." "Never saw a sound ear of corn grown on muck land."

This Grange has had splendid results from use of the question box. Here are samples of questions put in box at the last meeting: "What State produced the greatest amount of mineral wealth last year, and what was the amount?" "What State ranks first in corn growing?" "When were steel pens first used?" Installation of officers at next meeting.

Lenawee Co. H. C. V., Cor.

#### GRANGE AND FARMERS' CLUB.

Address of Hon. George B. Horton, Master of Michigan State Grange, at joint meeting of State Grange and State Association of Farmers' Clubs, in House of Representatives, December 15, 1897.

Mr. President, Members of the State Association of Farmers' Clubs, and Friends: This is a most auspicious occasion. We see in this assembly men and women from the various business and professional walks of life. All are citizens and residents of our commonwealth, and are alike interested in its present and future welfare. All are equally proud of this our home State, of its resources and its institutions, all of which last speak so eloquently of the many virtues and sterling qualities of our people. As professional men, as tradesmen, as farmers, as fathers, mothers, sons and daughters, and as members of farm societies, it is meet that we may here counsel and glean thoughts of wisdom for our general and mutual good.

In behalf of the Michigan State Grange, I desire to say to the State Association of Farmers' Clubs, we thank you for your kind and considerate invitation to meet with you and to take a part in the deliberation of a joint session where we may publicly express our oneness of purpose and weave more closely our social relations. One year ago, the members of the State Association of Farmers' Clubs were the guests of the State Grange. That meeting was the first of a series of annual joint sessions which we hope will continue so long as these organizations shall live, and that will be so long as there is need of furnishing farm people with the advantages now offered through these organizations, which, no doubt, will be forever; for the full demands for a higher education and superior social advantages will never be wholly satisfied. How well we remember the incidents of that meeting one year ago. The welcomes were given in language unmistakable for other than evidence of good will, sympathy of purpose, and co-operation in action.

Mr. President, this was but natural and altogether very reasonable. The members and workers in Farmers' Clubs are of the same class of people as those who are members and workers in Granges. These organizations, although different in form, are, as stated, the same in purpose. All members of each are dwellers in country homes, and are alike interested in all that pertains to the success of agriculture and the welfare of the people engaged therein. As members of Clubs

and Granges, we raise the same crops, send our children to the same common schools, and move in the same plane of society. These Clubs and Granges, scattered over our State, are like so many schools where farm people may, after embarking in the business affairs of life, meet, not as partisans, but regardless of such differences, for the consideration of such questions as pertain to the farm, the household, the garden, the orchard, the communities in which we live, the State and the nation. In these high schools, the young and even the college graduate finds a perfect place to make use of and keep bright his education, while all have practice in speaking and thinking.

In these schools our people learn more fully the privileges and duties of citizenship, improve themselves socially and morally, and by thus being banded together, they learn to act together and are in a condition to be seen or heard, as the case may demand. In these high schools the farmer has a chance to learn of the methods employed by other interests for their advantage, and when he becomes fairly well informed of these, he is less sentimental and not so confiding as he formerly was; instead, he is more inclined to independently care for himself. He also concludes that it is not all for him to plow, cultivate and harvest. He has duties beyond, if he desires to succeed best, and that it is unreasonable to think that others will perform these duties for him satisfactorily and to his advantage. He learns that he must broaden his knowledge of markets out past his local village, even to the conditions that prevail over the whole world, if he would act intelligently.

In these schools it is but natural for the farmer to obtain exalted opinions of the importance of agriculture, and to learn that upon its success depends the measure of success enjoyed by all other interests, and thus because of its importance among the great productive interests of our country, the farmer should diligently seek to protect it from harm and not be sentimental in seeking to benefit it, or let his conscience trouble him in asking special aid to assist it, for in so doing he is not only helping himself, but is aiding all others as well. Assistance given to agricultural interests is not class legislation. This cannot be so generally said in behalf of any other interest.

In these schools the many questions relative to local and state government are being considered, including taxation and official service, and the farmer finds that he is being held rigidly to one system of positive assessment, based upon simple possession, while many of the corporate interests of our State are allowed special favors by paying a special, yet varying, amount based upon earnings; also that vast amounts of taxable property escape taxation entirely by various questionable methods, all of which largely increase the burdens upon farm properties.

In these schools the farmer is being taught, as a citizen of our State, the State government should, in accordance with the chief objects of government, protect its farm citizens against such injustice. That there is but little truth or logic in the arguments made favoring a continuance of this outrage upon citizenship. Justice and equity should be established, and the farmers are now pleading to its avowed protector, the State government, for justice in this important matter. On the ground of primary importance, agricultural interests should be favored, if any favors are to be shown. But farmers ask no such favors along this line, they only plead for simple justice.

In these schools the farmer is taught that it is honorable to hold public office, and also that it tends toward corruption and bad government to fix salaries at a point beyond the real value of like service in ordinary pursuits.

In these schools the women and girls of the country are given special opportunities for mental and social culture, and many are the women now known over our country for their efforts and achievements in the causes of education and humanity, who, without these organizations to open the way for them, would have remained at home, unheard of and unknown beyond a narrow sphere. Proportionately have all farm women been benefited.

Mr. President, there are over 500 of these schools scattered over Michigan, and they hold 8,000 sessions annually. Can you calculate, accurately, upon

the effect of this kind of education among the farm families of Michigan? The natural and logical conclusion is that farmers will, in the future, do more of their own thinking. That, in a general way, they will see it for their benefit to act together, and that partisan differences will grow less radical, because it is a positive fact that the farmers' interests are absolutely identical, and education can but teach them to co-operate in all matters affecting their interests.

The political boss who attempts to corral the farmers in years to come will need an extra number of herdsmen. They will, however, recognize those leaders who are in sympathy with their wishes. The farmer is not only going to do more of his own thinking, but he is going to do some of the talking also, and will have the courage of his convictions.

This, my friends, does not mean that the farmer, through the lines of education I have described as now going on over our State, is to become a disturbing element in opposition to good government. This kind of education does not lead people that way, but instead, it is refining, elevating and broadening. It teaches them, while caring for their own interests, to regard their neighbors' rights and privileges, to exercise mercy and charity, and to love the principles of equality and justice, and to maintain law and order, upon which all good government is founded.

The people of this country need never fear the farmers. They always will be the great conservative class and, as such, will continue to act as the wise judge and arbiter between extremely radical factions, and their decision will always preserve that equilibrium of the people's rights so essential to good government.

The people living in farm districts have not, in years long past, had the opportunities of social culture through these Clubs and Granges. This want is now being supplied. We may now have lecture courses and libraries, the same as our village friends.

The thoughts presented here are not confined to the interests of farmers, because we are not unmindful of the presence and importance of other people and other interests. We are taught to recognize the rights of every citizen of our common country, and in caring better for our own, we do not wish to inculcate any spirit of rivalry, jealousy or hostility. We believe it to be proper for us, as farm people, to do all in our power to improve ourselves socially and mentally, and to extend our united influence in all ways that will elevate and dignify the occupation of farming. For these purposes these meetings and these joint assemblies are held.

Again we thank the host, The State Association of Farmers' Clubs, for the privileges of this grand meeting. May it prove faithful to the work it has in hand, and that its influence will grow, as years go by, is the earnest wish of The Michigan State Grange.

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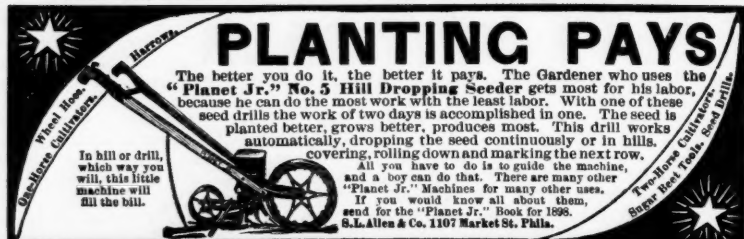
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